# The Middlebury Campus

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# MCAB boasts unprecedented spring concert

By Kathryn Flagg
*News Editor*

The Middlebury College Activity Board's (MCAB) annual spring concert will present a record three bands this year as hip hop giants Naughty by Nature and vocal percussionist Razhel join Jurassic 5 as supporting acts in the upcoming April show. The show, according to MCAB President David Jackson '06, "will bring together multi-talented hip hop artists from different generations," providing for a big-name concert, despite widespread difficulty among small New England schools in booking large concerts this year.

"This will definitely be the biggest and probably most impressive total concert in MCAB history," said Jackson.

According to MCAB Concert Committee Chair Caroline Brewer '06, after signing Jurassic 5, MCAB began working with their booking agent to generate a list of potential support acts. After the organization had narrowed its list to Naughty by Nature and Razhel, their booking agent suggested that MCAB make offers to both groups. MCAB policy prevents the organization from disclosing the cost of booked acts.

"We met and decided that we wanted to go for it," said Brewer, "so we reallocated some funds and put in the offer."

Brewer continued, "We really lucked out, and definitely owe a lot to our booking agent who really pushed for this to happen. Nonetheless, I think a lot of credit is owed to MCAB, both the executive and the full boards, for their enthusiasm and support."

According to Brewer, MCAB's energy is especially impressive in light of "many discouraging attempts to secure the concert." Jackson previously acknowledged that other New England colleges have struggled this year to track down big-name acts, and

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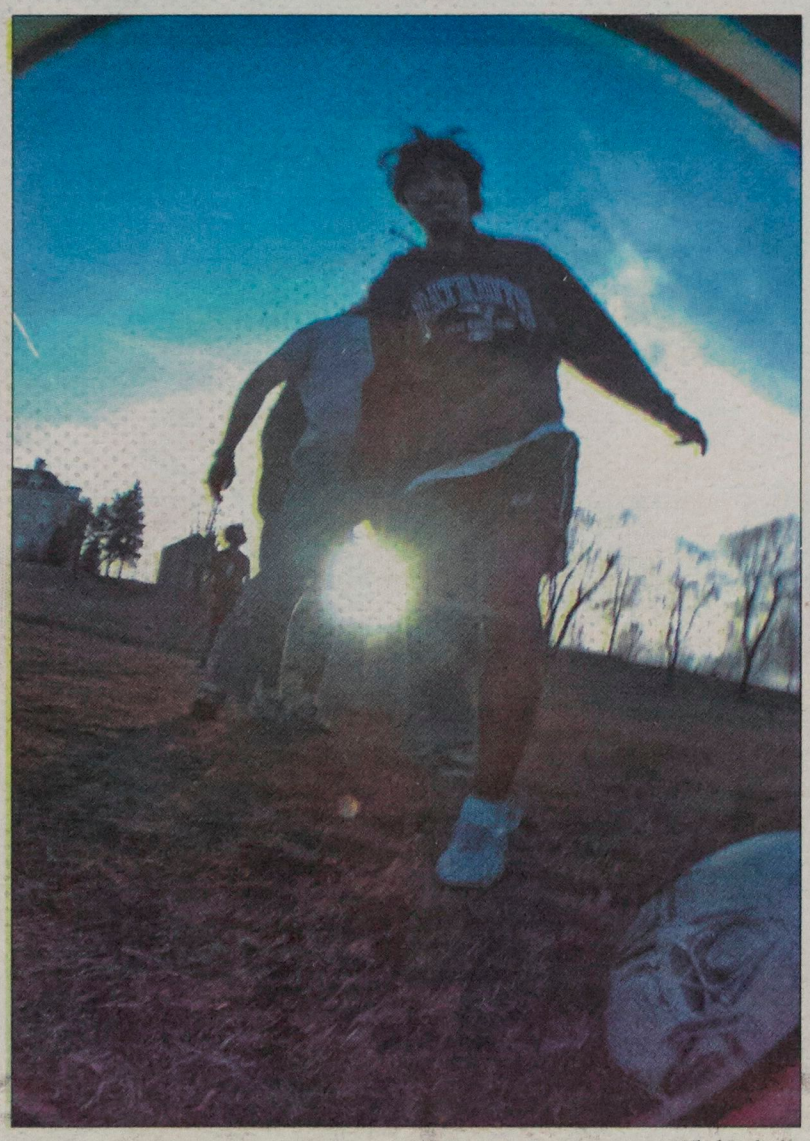
## Soccer in the sunshine



Vlad Lodoaba

**Taking advantage of the surprisingly warm weather,** a group gathered on Battell Beach on Tuesday afternoon to engage in an exciting game of soccer.

# College, ACTR sponsor Saturday shuttle

By Kathryn Flagg
*News Editor*

Saturday marked the kick-off for a new Saturday bus service linking Middlebury and Burlington, an initiative co-sponsored by Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR), the Middlebury College Student Government Association (SGA) and the College's Office of the Treasurer. While SGA and ACTR have expressed hopes that this service will provide greater access to Burlington for Middlebury students and community members, the success of the route remains to be seen.

According to SGA President Eli Berman '07.5, four or five students accessed the new service this Saturday at the tail end of the College's spring break, when much of the student body was away from campus. A clearer picture of the route's popularity among students will be available in the weeks following this break, though Berman indicated that initial feedback has been "100 percent positive" from the students with whom he has spoken.

Prior to supporting this service, the SGA conducted a survey of the student body to judge students' interest in the Saturday shuttle. The survey generated over 700 responses from students, and overwhelming, students indicated that the service would be utilized, according to Berman.

In addition to recognizing student interest, the College has applauded the new service for its increased accessibility and its environmental benefits. "If one person takes the bus and doesn't drive, that's providing a benefit and helping the environment," said Berman.

Currently the SGA is paying $2,000 until the end of the year for the shuttle service, regardless of how many students use the new route. The College has also committed to funding the shuttle program through the summer. In addition to obtaining funding from the College directly, ACTR is currently receiving federal funding because of its partnership with the College. Through a local match program funding by a non-profit grant, the government is currently covering 80 percent of ACTR's operating costs.

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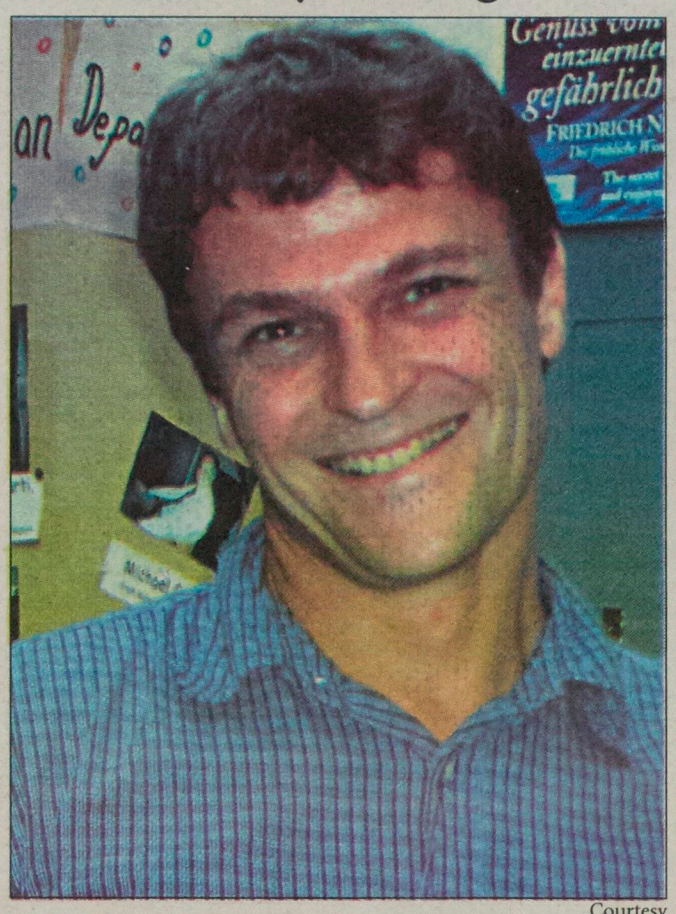
# Remembering Mark R.V. Southern

## Middlebury College mourns the loss of a beloved professor



Courtesy

**Mark R.V. Southern was loved for his warm, vibrant personality.**

By Jason F. Siegel
*Focus Editor*

On March 16, the College was shocked by the unexpected passing of beloved Visiting Assistant Professor of German and Linguistics Mark R.V. Southern. He died on Wednesday afternoon in his home at age 45.

The Office of the President sent out several messages over the course of the weekend, starting with an all-campus e-mail containing minimal information about the death and announcing that College Chaplain Laurie Jordan '79 and Assistant Professor of Psychology and licensed clinical psychologist Augustus Jordan were on hand in the Chateau Grand Salon to provide emotional support to students, faculty and staff. The College also held a memorial service yesterday afternoon in Mead Chapel.

Popular almost from the instant he arrived on campus, Southern soon achieved near rock-star status among students for his seemingly unlimited depth of knowledge and effervescent personality. He inspired scores of students to declare Independent Scholar majors in linguistics, and he was recently involved in an effort to establish a linguistics minor. He also served as an advisor to many German students and supervised several independent projects, always eager to serve as a second theses reader.

Born in Cambridge, England and a graduate of the prestigious Eton School and both Oxford and Princeton Universities, Southern was a well-respected scholar in historical linguistics, especially among Germanic, Romance and Classic languages. He worked with 26 languages and was able to make connections between Old Norse, Sanskrit and French with little effort. His courses regularly filled to more than twice their initial capacity, as students flocked to his lectures. He often displayed so much energy that he would end a class with chalk and sweat all over his clothes, a trademark that endeared him to his students. Said Edward Hinson '05.5, "Mark's lectures bubbled with excitement even at 8 a.m." Hannah Washington '08 added, "He always seemed excited by every new perspective that students could offer."

As a scholar, his research interests covered all areas of the humanities, including classics, comparative religion and anthropological linguistics. He had recently published a book, "Contagious

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# MIDDBRIEFS

BY KATHRYN FLAGG AND DANIEL L. J. PHILLIPS

## VCC honors College community members

Three members of the Middlebury College community received 2006 Vermont Campus Compact (VCC) awards today at the VCC's third annual award ceremony. The ceremony, conducted at the Vermont State House in Montpelier, recognized Assistant Professor of Economics Jon Isham, College senior Erica Goodman and Assistant Professor of Geography Peter Nelson.

Isham was recognized by the VCC with the Vermont Campus Compact Engaged Scholar Award, which honors one faculty member in Vermont for engagement inside and outside of the classroom. Said Susan Campbell, dean of the faculty, "Jon is getting things done, and perhaps even more importantly, he is empowering students to find their voice and take action to effect positive change on their own."

Goodman was the recipient of the TD Banknorth Commitment to Service and Engagement Award, which was given in recognition of her dedication to community involvement. During her time at the College, Goodman has served as co-chair of the Volunteer Service Organization and has also recruited volunteers for the Middlebury Area Land Trust. She has also worked with her basketball team to create a Vermont registry for the National Marrow Donor Program.

Nelson received the Excellence in Teaching award, given each year to a faculty member in Vermont. The award recognizes innovative teaching methods and service-learning initiatives, and Nelson regularly offers two courses in the geography department that include service-learning components. Nelson's students, under his guidance, have worked with local organizations to address real-work situations. Said Nelson's student Philip Picotte '08, "He incorporates social awareness and activism into each course, giving each student the opportunity for experimental learning. He is among the most effective and committed professors I've met."

VCC is a statewide consortium of colleges and universities dedicated to advancing the public good. The VCC annually honors students, faculty, college staff and community members with whom they work. Today's ceremonies also included presents from students from five Vermont colleges regarding their volunteer efforts, including a talk by Middlebury sophomore Theo May and Ashley Vale on their volunteer experiences in Argentina.

## Book donation benefits New Orleans library

In a collaborative effort with Middlebury College students, staff and volunteers from town, April 10-14 will bring Hurricane Follow-Up Week to campus. According to Emily Peterson '08, the primary organizer, the week was conceived to "keep the Katrina dialogue going and to remind people about why the Gulf Coast should remain on the national agenda and consciousness."

The schedule of events will include a lecture on tsunamis, a panel on climate change/increasing hurricane intensity and a campaign to write letters to members of Congress about the wetlands awareness.

The most time-sensitive event on the agenda will be a book sale to generate proceeds for the New Orleans Public Library. The collection for used books will start on Monday, April 3, in order to accumulate enough donations to sell before the deadline on April 9. The College's participation in the book drive is being organized by Joseph Watson, LIS facilities coordinator. Collection points will be placed at locations in each of the libraries, dining halls and in McCullough Student Center. All used books will then be sold on April 10 to the local Middlebury town library, and proceeds will be sent to the New Orleans library. The town's library has already begun accepting used book donations, and a few of the local churches have collection points in place.

According to Katie Hawkins '06.5, one of Follow-Up Week's organizers, Middlebury is one of many schools participating in the book drive for New Orleans.

Watson plans to send an e-mail to the College community to advertise the book drive, and the list of other events of Hurricane Follow-Up Week will be sent in a later message by Peterson.

## CORRECTIONS

In the article "Iron chef Yonamine pan-fries foes" in the March 16 issue of *The Middlebury Campus*, the photo caption misidentifies Matt Cesno '06 as Amdrew Bermudez '07. *The Campus* sincerely regrets this error.

# Senior snags coveted Watson

By Dan Stevens
*Staff Writer*

Ali Shapiro, a senior English major, has been awarded the prestigious Watson Fellowship by the Thomas J. Watson Foundation. At the conclusion of her senior year, Shapiro will embark on a year long tour studying the role tattooing plays in the lives of women in diverse cultures around the world.

Every year the Thomas J. Watson Foundation awards 50 liberal arts students the chance to explore the world for the purpose of independent study completely designed and planned by the graduating student. Shapiro is the 22nd Middlebury student since 1981 to receive a Watson Fellowship.

Shapiro's research project, titled "Painted Ladies: A Cultural Exploration of Women and Tattooing," will explore the nature of tattooing in far flung areas of the world including Samoa, Tahiti, New Zealand, India, Morocco and Tanzania. Shapiro said the project stems from a personal desire to explore how tattoos have meaning in other cultures.

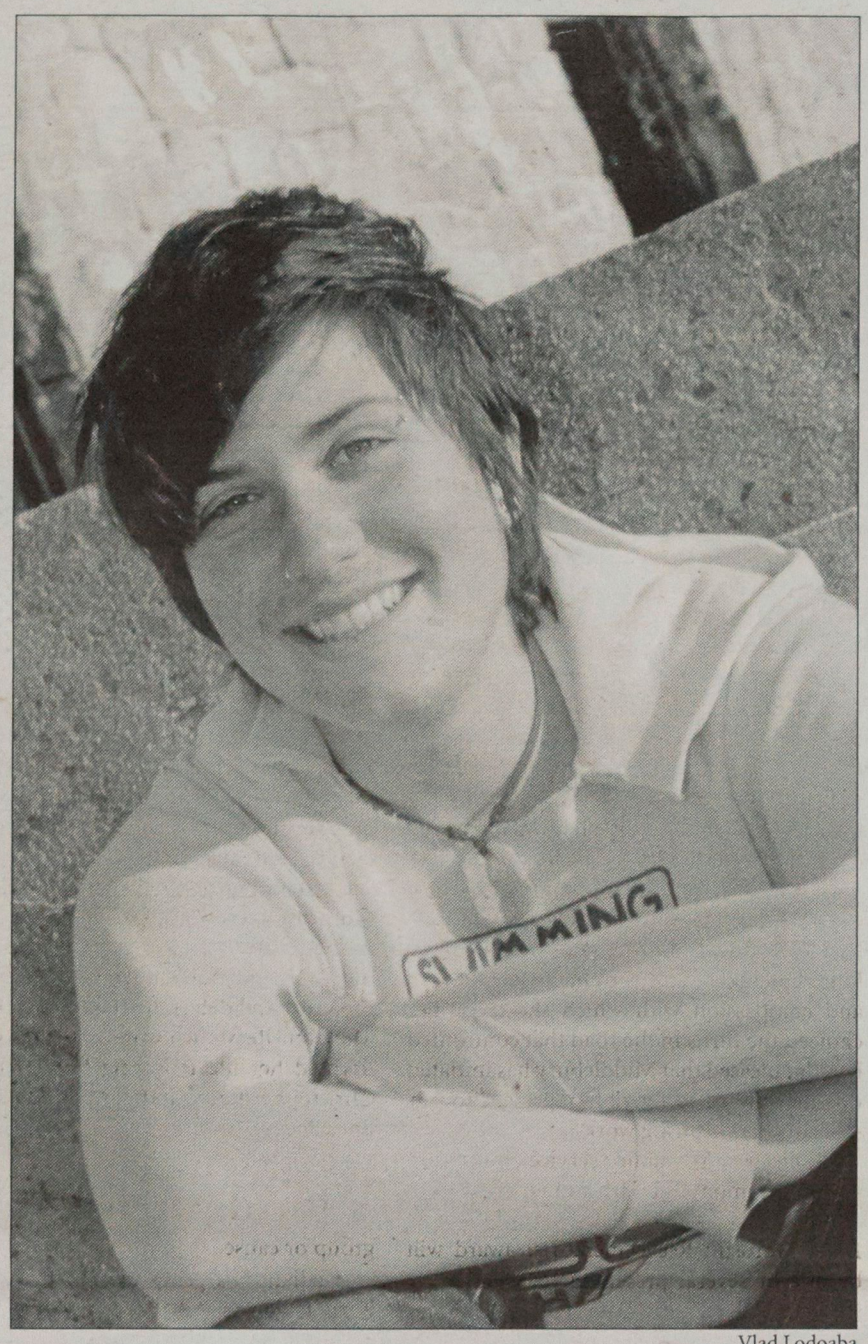
"I want to explore the role of women in tattoo cultures outside the United States, where tattooing still retains a sense of meaning, community and ritual, and the full participation of women is not an aberration from the norm, but a specific norm all its own," Shapiro wrote in her project proposal.

Watson Fellowship projects are as diverse as the students and the universities represented. Shapiro's fellow awardees will be studying topics ranging from the way baseball enhances cultural immersion to tracking the Arctic Tern from the North Pole to the South Pole.

The process for selecting Watson Fellows is rigorous and competitive. Each member institution first requires an application with a project proposal from each student. The College then limits the applicants to a smaller group for interviews. Following this restriction, the institution then reduces the pool to an even smaller group to nominate to the Watson Foundation.

Once nominated, the Watson Foundation designates a former fellow to interview each applicant. The highly selective process results in awarding fellowships to students that are highly motivated and largely independent.

"The awards are long-term investments in people likely to lead or innovate," said Beverly Larson, the executive director of the Watson Fellowship program and a former Watson Fellow. "We look for people with passion, a feasible plan, leadership potential and creativity. The recipients get unusual freedom in global experiential learning."



Vlad Lodoaba

**Shapiro, Middlebury's sole recipient this year of the Watson Fellowship, will travel to Samoa, Tahiti, New Zealand, India, Morocco and Tanzania to research her project, "Painted Ladies: A Cultural Exploration of Women and Tattooing."**

Watson Fellows are awarded $25,000 to spend largely independent of guidance or oversight. Fellows are required to submit quarterly reports and explicit financial statements. Another major restriction is a ban on travel to the Fellow's home country for an entire calendar year.

The Fellowship is named for Thomas J.Watson, the legendary CEO of IBM. The foundation was founded by Watson's children and largely run by Watson's eldest son Thomas J. Watson, Jr., also a CEO of IBM. Watson Jr. is largely remembered for the role he played in piloting the computer revolution at IBM. The entire Watson family demonstrated the importance of international travel, many serving as foreign ambassadors — Thomas Watson Jr. himself served as ambassador to the Soviet Union under Jimmy Carter.

# Midd preps for preview days

By Polly Johnson
*News Editor*

With April comes the arrival of spring, flip-flops, shorts and ... admitted students deciding in a scant two days whether Middlebury is the place they want to spend four of the most important years of their lives.

This year, April preview days will take place on April 10 and April 17 and will include a variety of activities and information sessions, including classes that parents and students are welcome to attend, faculty and student panels, a group lunch in Kenyon Arena and performances by student singing and dancing groups.

Associate Director of Admissions Kathy Lindsey spoke about what they anticipate for this year's preview days, a very exciting time for the school. In terms of numbers, Lindsey noted that "the number of people who attend has stayed pretty steady from year to year. We're expecting to have about 100 to 130 families the first Monday, and then we're expecting slightly more on the second Monday, when we might get up to 160 families." She attributes the greater number of attendees on the April 17 date to the fact that admissions decisions go out tomorrow and April 10 might be too soon for those who are undecided.

In terms of what will take place on both Mondays, Lindsey said, "We encourage everyone to go to class in the morning, and the faculty are great about welcoming visitors, especially in the freshmen and sophomore classes." Parents and students are encouraged to attend early-morning classes so that they can be at the Center for the Arts concert hall in time for President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz's welcoming speech, which will begin at 11 a.m. Lindsey noted that Liebowitz rearranged his schedule so that he could attend both sessions, where "he makes himself available to questions which is really great — he always takes the time to open it up to the audience."

The rest of the day brings a faculty panel where such issues as academic programs and advising are discussed, a student panel in which the newly-admitted students can ask all those burning questions that they would never ask in front of their parents and a group lunch in Kenyon Arena, complete with entertainment provided by the stage band Sound Investment.

The night before, newly-admitted students are invited to stay in host student's rooms. The admissions office tries to place the visitors with first-years, since they are closest in age to the admitted students. That Sunday night, entertainment will be provided in The Grille, which Lindsey notes is one of the best parts of the trip for the students, since "every year more people turn out for that, even current students. It is a really nice mix of visitors and current students and gives visitors a really nice chance to see how wonderful our students are."

Overall, Lindsey is excited for the two days. She said that the trips always "end up being a really great demonstration of how enthusiastic our students are and how they support what other students on campus do." She also encourages all first-year students who are interested in hosting a student to do so.

# College unveils Dana Reeve award

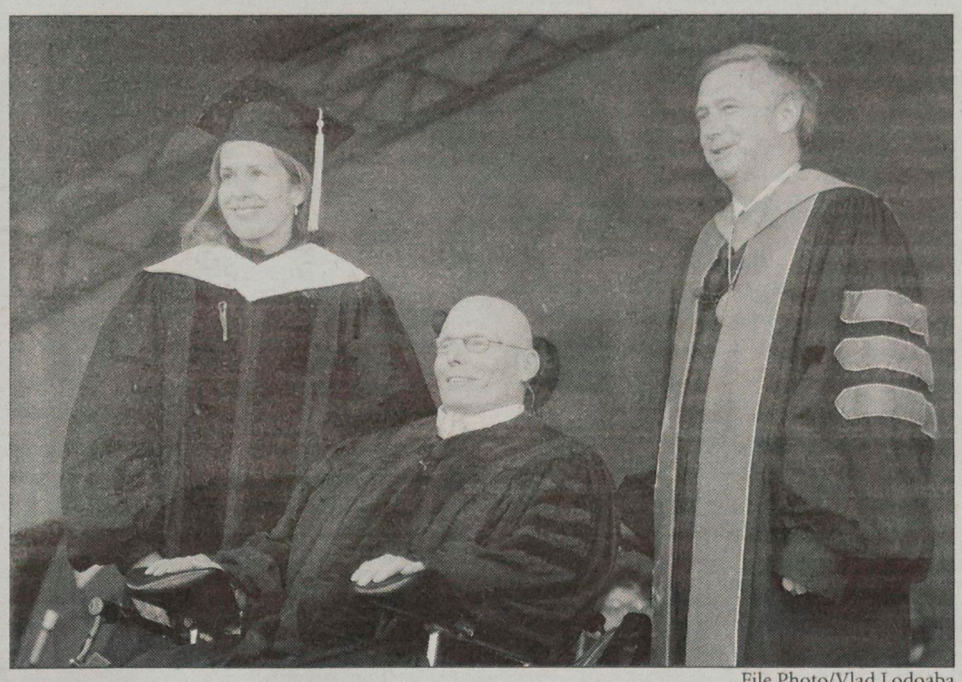
By Rachel Greenhaus
*Staff Writer*

On Thursday, March 16, Middlebury College announced that a new annual award would be given in memory of Dana Morosini Reeve '84. This year's public service leadership awards ceremony will debut the first annual presentation of the Dana Morosini Reeve '84 Memorial Public Service award, which is intended to honor a student who, like Reeve, exemplifies passion, determination and dedication to a cause. In the spirit of these qualities, the College will donate $300 to a non-profit organization to be chosen by the award recipient.

Reeve died of lung cancer on March 6 at the age of 44, 17 months after the death of her husband and less than two years after the two of them had given a joint commencement address at the College to the graduating Class of 2004. In that address, Reeve told the graduates, "There will be many choices before you, some of which you'll welcome and celebrate, and then there will be some over which you will anguish. Some choices will choose you. How you face these choices, these turns in the road, with what kind of attitude, more than the choices themselves, is what will define the context of your life."

In a press release announcing the new award in her memory, President of the College Ronald D. Leibowitz said, "Dana will be long remembered for the energy, intelligence and compassion with which she faced her choices, the turns in the road that confronted her. I'm pleased that Middlebury has initiated this new award to tangibly represent to our students her inspiring work."

This year's public service leadership awards ceremony, the 13th annual occurrence of the event, will be held on April 11. The Dana Morosini Reeve memorial award will be one of several presented to Middlebury students in recognition of their commitment to community service. Nominations for these awards are solicited from students, staff, faculty and community members, and the winners are chosen by a committee composed of faculty, staff and students.



File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

**Reeve delivered an address with her husband to the graduating Class of 2004 two years ago.**

According to the criteria for the Dana Morosini Reeve '84 Memorial Public Service Award, "This award is given to the Middlebury College student who best exemplifies the spirit and determination of the late Dana Morosini Reeve, who tirelessly and selflessly devoted her life to caring for her husband Christopher Reeve and, through the Christopher Reeve Foundation, to her work as an advocate for all those with spinal cord injuries." The award is reserved for a student who is involved in activism on the behalf of a specific group or cause.

Tiffany Sargent, director of Middlebury College's Alliance for Civic Engagement (ACE), reports that ACE is excited to be introducing this new award. "We are very pleased to be able to both honor and recognize the incredible life and work of Dana Morosini Reeve '84 with this award in her name, Sargent said. She gave so much of herself in caring for her husband and in her work to support individuals with spinal cord injuries and the research needed to give both hope and real help. At the same time this will be a meaningful way to recognize Midd students, whose activism reflects the passion Dana modeled, for years to come. This will be an important addition to our annual Public Service Leadership Awards celebration."

Reeve and her husband established the Christopher Reeve Foundation for spinal cord research after Christopher Reeve's horseback injury in 1995 left him paralyzed from the neck down.

# Southern, 45, passes away March 15

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Couplings: Yiddish shm- and the Contact-Driven Transmission of Expressives," and his "History of the German Language" is also under consideration at Cambridge University Press, which has a series of language histories. One of his many forays outside linguistics, however, was as a judge for the Alison Fraker Prize, for which he had offered his services for the last two years. Chair of the Women's and Gender Studies Program Sujata Moorti said, "Mark was always the first to volunteer to read the essays and was always very meticulous in his assessments of the interdisciplinary array of texts. Undertaking this additional task in his already busy schedule is a striking example of his commitment to fostering an intellectual community."

Yet more than for his expansive base of knowledge, Southern was known for being a genuine friend to his students. A former research assistant, Laura Reid '04.5 said, "Although Mark's professional life undeniably reflected work of the highest and most admirable caliber, his personality and unique virtues were what made him so exemplary as a scholar, friend and human being."

Senior Janet Fung said of him, "Anyone who met him was amazed by how many languages he spoke and his vast knowledge of the world, but I think what most inspired people was how humble Mark was."

His death sent shockwaves through the faculty as well. Visiting Assistant Professor of German Johanna Stimmel said, "I still really cannot believe what happened, and definitely will never understand how someone so lively and full of energy could just disappear from this earth."

Dean of the Curriculum Carol Rifelj said, "He did so many things for others, and he considered that perfectly normal, yet any little thing one did for him was received as though it was special."

Beyond being a good friend and a knowledgeable coworker, Southern served as an inspiration to those around him. Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian Natasha Chang said of him, "Perhaps one of the most wonderful things about Mark — for his students and many of his colleagues alike — was his idealism. It was contagious and truly inspirational. It was a reminder that our beliefs, whatever they may be, must be founded in ideals that go far beyond what is possible."

Outside the College, Southern was an important member of the town's Jewish community as well. Although he himself had never converted to Judaism, he fully and eagerly participated in activities. At the University of Texas-Austin, where he had been a professor immediately prior to coming to Middlebury, he had enjoyed a similiar reputation, winning prizes for excellence in teaching on two occasions. He also was included in "Who's Who Among America's Teachers."

Indeed, one of his students, Todd Krause, was inspired so much by Southern that after he finished his doctorate in physics, he began to work as a linguist at the University of Texas. He has now come to Middlebury to finish Southern's linguistics course. Since he did not feel comfortable offering the German section, a new course on German culture is being arranged for students who need German credit, while the rest of the class has been converted to pass/fail status. Lori Sundberg, who is finishing a doctorate in German at the University of Pennsylvania, will take over his introductory German courses.

Southern is survived by his wife, Lauri London, his two daughters, Maya, 9, and Zara, 7, his father Eric Southern, his sister Jane Southern, and nieces Eleanor, Matilda and Julia. An education fund has been established for the couple's children through Havurah and the National Bank of Middlebury. Checks may be sent to the "Maya and Zara London-Southern Education Fund" care of Havurah, P.O. Box 823, Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

# Shuttles provide Burlington route

Continued from page 1

Unlike its local services, the ACTR Burlington bus charges passengers a $3 one-way fare — due in large part to the route's reliance on the Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA). The CCTA's LINK Express was initiated in October 2004, offering a weekday route for commuters. According to ACTR Executive Director Jim Moulton, the new ACTR route is "an extension of the weekday LINK Express service," which similarly charges a $3 fare.

Moulton also acknowledged in the ACTR's press release that since the inception of the CCTA route, the service "generated numerous requests from the community for ACTR to begin Saturday service." Furthermore, interest increased, according to Moulton, after Vermont Transit Lines discontinued their Route 7 corridor service last fall.

The Saturday schedule will consist of two round trips between Middlebury and Burlington. Buses will leave Middlebury College at 9:55 a.m. and 3:55 p.m., while return trips will leave Cherry Street in Burlington at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. The bus will also serve New Haven Junction, Vergennes, Ferrisburgh and other communities along the Route 7 corridor.

# OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY KELSEY SMITH

PARIS — The French are revolutionary. Their model of democracy did not come about little by little, as was the case for their non-continental neighbors to the north, but in one fell swoop. In one fell swoop, mind you, that was the result of a serious, violent struggle. And as I write, another struggle is growing all the more violent not very far from here. Today the ongoing manifestations of students, workers and even retirees against the Contrat Première Embauche (CPE), a labor law making it easier to fire workers under the age of 26 within their first two years of employment, were coupled with a strike by the transportation, postal and banking industries. The hope is that this devastating blow to the economy will force those governmental officials in favor of the law to swallow their pride and back down. When unhappy with labor laws, medical benefits or work hours, the "syndicats" organize days of solidarity when workers take to the streets. Anything to protect their way of life — a life that places the value of personal time above hours logged in at an office.

Though I find this philosophy of life both admirable and charming, I must say that it is sometimes difficult to feel sympathetic when you hear that students are protesting because a law is being passed that would make it possible for them to be fired if their employer is not happy with their performance. Job security is a concept that means little to me. I expect that I will have to work very hard and that if I do not, my employer will let me go. It is difficult to see how refusing to go to school for an entire month is really going to help the situation.

Conversely, as a young American who is very unhappy with the way things are going in my own country, I admire the mobilized, active youth around me. The question that arises is, are they doing it for the right reasons? Or, are they merely play-acting, filling roles they have seen performed time and time again by their parents and grand parents, jumping at the opportunity to take to the streets?

The legend of May '68 lives strong in Paris. There are times when I find myself walking around the urban campus of Sciences Po, the University I am currently attending and, it stands to be mentioned, one of the only universities that has maintained classes during this ordeal, wondering which decade I am living in. Observing the behavior of students in the hallways, tying on armbands of solidarity against the CPE, and in the Assemblé Général, a student-run forum where we vote on whether or not to strike, I can't help but feel this is exactly what they have been waiting for.

I also found it interesting that I met most of the students I know, not in class, but at the several manifestations I attended. They were friendly, open and obliging to all of my questions and observations about the CPE and the French manifestation culture in general. Additionally, it can be said that being tear-gassed by the police together is certainly a bonding experience. It is also important to mention that the majority of violence I witnessed from the protesters themselves came, not from students who were there with presumably honorable intentions, but from kids, not much older than 14, who were just looking for an excuse to antagonize the police.

As it stands now I feel for both sides of the situation. As the government tries desperately to provide a growing population of unemployed citizens with the opportunity to work, a nation in general is struggling to keep its cultural institutions in a world that is hurling towards general economic liberalism at an alarming rate.

# COLLEGE SHORTS

BY POLLY JOHNSON

## Duke lacrosse players accused of gang rape

A gang rape investigation involving several male lacrosse players is underway at Duke University. The team members allegedly raped, strangled and robbed an exotic dancer who was one of two dancers hired to perform at a private party at 610 N. Buchanan Blvd. in Durham, N.C., the residence of the three lacrosse captains.

No charges have been pressed and the team members have remained mostly silent, but the community outrage has been overwhelming. Community members, faculty and students protested outside the Buchanan residence as well as outside the home of the Duke University President Richard Brodhead, who wrote in a statement to the university community, "Physical coercion and sexual assault are unacceptable in any setting and will not be tolerated at Duke. As none of us would choose to be the object of such conduct, so none of us has the right to subject another person to such behavior. Since they run counter to such fundamental values, the claims against our players, if verified, will warrant very serious penalties, both from the university and in the courts."

DNA samples were taken from 46 out of the 47 members of the lacrosse team, and when those are processed at the crime lab, they will hopefully determine if any of the team members were involved in the alleged rape.

Duke's athletic director Joe Alleva cancelled the two games following the incident and all future games have been cancelled pending further revelations in the case. The contents of the lacrosse page on the Duke Athletics We site, including the roster and schedule, have been removed and replaced with a statement from Brodhead explaining the situation.

*—The Duke Chronicle and WRAL.com*

## Boulder reports meningitis case

A male sophomore University of Colorado (CU), Boulder student was diagnosed with meningococcal meningitis on Friday, March 17, prompting 25 students to visit CU's Wardenburg Health Center to obtain preventative antibiotics.

The 25 students were ones who had come into close contact with the infected individual, even if they had just been at the same party that the student had attended on March 11.

The bacterial infection, which causes an inflammation of the membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord, can only be protected by a vaccine. Meningitis is potentially fatal, and students on college campuses are particularly susceptible to the infection due to living in such close quarters and sharing drinks and personal items.

Symptoms appear seven to 10 days after exposure and can include confusion, sudden headaches and rashes on the arms and legs. Each year, approximately 100 to 125 cases of meningitis are reported on college campuses with about five to 15 deaths each year.

Wardenburg Health Center Director Bob Cranny estimates that 50 percent of the CU population has the meningitis bacteria in their body with the trigger being a suppressed immune system. Triggers can include stress, dehydration, alcohol and lack of sleep, which all can break down the immune system and set off the infection.

Colorado state law does not require that college students be vaccinated against the infection, but Cranny said that he would lobby to make the vaccine required, noting that the "severity of its contagiousness makes it such a threat."

*—The Campus Press*

# MCAB gets 'Naughty' for concert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

noted that some schools have "thrown in the towel" and scratched spring concert plans.

Naughty by Nature formed in New Jersey in 1991 after performing since 1986 as The New Style. The group was originally made up of MCs Treach, born Anthony Criss, and Vinnie, born Vincent Brown, as well as DJ Kay Gee, born Keir Gist. Criss, Brown and Gist attended high school together, performed at talent shows and were discovered by Queen Latifah. Queen Latifah's mentorship prompted the group's change of name and facilitated its first album as Naughty by Nature.

The group maintained a reputation for producing catchy, mainstream pop hits while maintaining credibility with the rap faithful. Naughty by Nature remains well known for its 1991 hit "O.P.P.," a single from their self-titled debut that sampled the Jackson 5's hit "ABC."

The group's other hits have included "Ghetto Bastard," often referred to as "Everything's Gonna Be Alright," and the "hey! ho!" anthem from "Hip Hop Hooray." The group's first two albums went platinum, and their 1995 record "Poverty's Paradise" won a Grammy for Best Rap Album.

Following Naughty by Nature's 1999 album "19 Naughty Nine: Nature's Fury," Kay Gee left the group to concentrate on his production career. Treach and Vinnie have since released two albums, "Iicons" and "Naughty's Nicest."

Razhel, born Rahzel M. Brown, is a hip hop MC who specializes in beatboxing. A well-known member of The Roots, he is also known as "the Godfather of Noyze." Growing up in the Bronx, he was particularly influenced early in his career by artist such as Doug E. Fresh, Biz Markie, Bobby McFerrin and Al Jarreau.

Razhel is credited with expanding the art of beatboxing, using both vocal beats and lyrics in his music. His style is perhaps best displayed in his well-known a cappella rendition of "If Your Mother Only Knew," an interpretation of Aaliyah's song "If Your Girl Only Knew."

He released his first album, "Make the Music 2000" in 1999 and, in 2004, followed his debut with "Rahzel's Greatest Knockouts." Also in 2004, Razhel collaborated with Björk and other beatboxers on her album "Medúlla," which utilizes almost no instruments except the human voice.

Courtesy

**Naughty by Nature will perform on April 29 with J5 and Rahzel.**

"We are all really excited about this concert. It will definitely be the biggest show we've had in the past few years, and probably the biggest show in MCAB history," said Brewer.

MCAB's spring concert is slated for April 29. Doors at Kenyon Arena will open at 7 p.m., and Razhel will take the stage at 8 p.m. Razhel will be followed first by Naughty by Nature and then Jurassic 5. Tickets for the show will go on sale beginning April 15, and will be $15 for MCAB cardholders, $20 for students, faculty and staff and $25 for the general public.

### FRAKER PRIZE AWARDED TO SENIOR

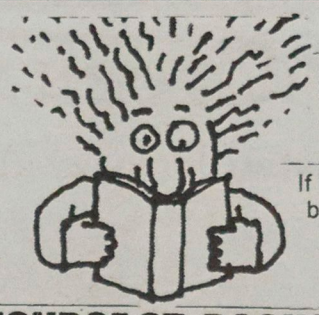
Vlad Lodoaba

**Accepting the Alison G. Fraker Prize '89 from Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies Sujata Moorti, Elizabeth Lyon '06 continues the tradition of the award, which honors the memory of Alison Gwen Fraker '89, a Middlebury student who was killed in a car accident weeks before her graduation. It was established in 1990 by Drue Cortell Gensler '57. The prize, which excludes senior theses, is awarded to a student who writes the best essay on a topic concerning women and gender studies. Lyon won for her essay entitled, "From Each According to Her Perceived Ability: An Experimental Study of Seller Discrimination in the Mao-orabilia Market at the New Silk Alley. Her essay focused on the experiences of Chinese women in the Beijing marketplace.**

# public safety log

MARCH 22, 2006 TO MARCH 26,2006

| DATE | TIME | INCIDENT | CATEGORY | LOCATION | DISPOSITION |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3/22/06 | 10:30 a.m. | Vandalism | Window | Prescott (ADP) | No Suspects |
| 3/23/06 | 6:15 a.m. | Theft | Chair | LaForce | No Suspects |
| 3/25/06 | Unknown | Theft | Check | McCullough | Open |
| 3/25/06 | 10:57 p.m. | Alcohol | Possession by a Minor | Allen Hall | Referred to Commons Dean |
| 3/25/06 | 9:12 p.m. | Alcohol | Possession by a Minor | McCullough | Referred to Commons Dean |
| 3/25/06 | 11:20 p.m. | Vandalism | Vending Machine | Forest | No Suspects |
| 3/26/06 | 1:05 a.m. | Alcohol | Possession by a Minor | Prescott (ADP) | Referred to Commons Dean |



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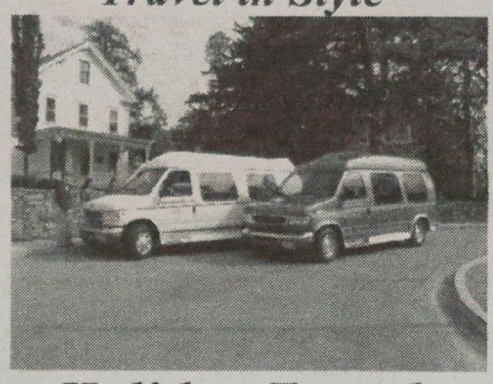

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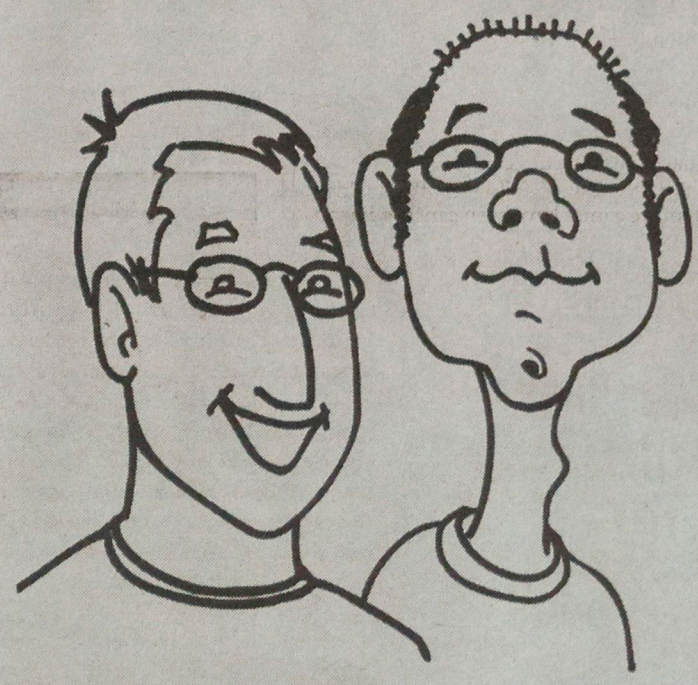

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localnews

6
**HAPPY B-DAY TO BREW**
LOCAL BREWERY CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

7
**PARENTAL PRESSURE**
SCHOOL CANCELS SPEECH BY GAY TEEN

# I.P.A. makes waves at Otter Creek

## Local brewery celebrates 15 years with the birth of a tasteful, classy ale

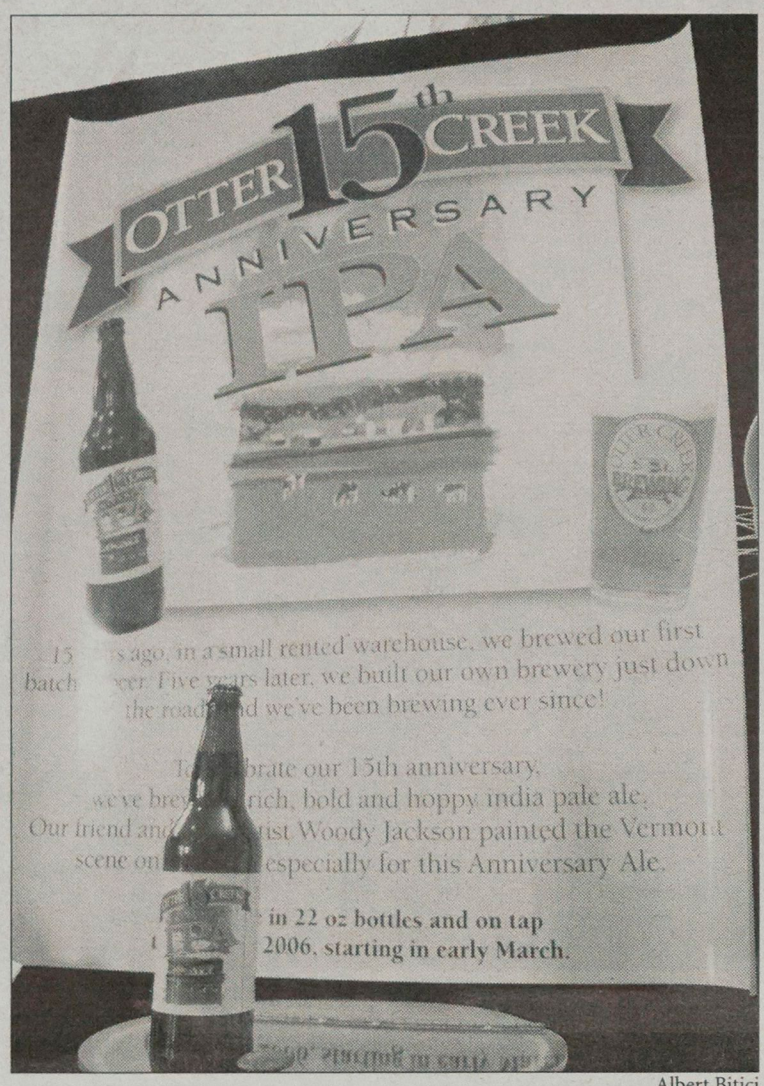
Albert Bitici

**Bottles roll off the conveyor belt at the Otter Creek Brewery, which is currently celebrating its 15th year of making both year-round and seasonal beers.**

By Rachel Durfee and CC Ragan
*Staff Writers*

In March of 1991 Lawrence Miller brewed his first batch of Otter Creek Ale. Fifteen years later the local brewery is celebrating its anniversary with a series of limited edition beers and a special anniversary ale. To learn more about the brewery, which locally develops, produces and bottles every Otter Creek beer and sells it as far west as California, we recently attended a brewery tour and tasting. Free tours are offered daily at 1, 3, and 5 p.m. and include complimentary sampling of up to six seasonal brews on tap for those of age. Visiting the facility also has its financial benefits — each day a different beer is featured at a discount price and all types are on sale on Monday.

With our guide, we stood on the brewing platform above the bustling production line to hear about all that goes into producing fresh and flavorful beers. In addition to an inventive line of brews, Otter Creek has an equally inspiring history. Founder Miller began experimenting with beer brewing when he stumbled upon a left-behind home brewery kit in his dorm room at Reed College in Portland, Ore. Blessed with a trust fund, he went to Germany for further study and then returned home to open his own brewery. Once a young camper in Vermont, he was drawn back to the Middlebury area due to its pristine water — beer's key ingredient. In the spring of 1991, the brewery opened down the road from its current location. Four years later, Miller moved his small-time beer production center to its current location at 793 Exchange Street.




Albert Bitici

**Honoring the 15th anniversary of its opening, the Otter Creek Brewery introductes an India Pale Ale in a limited commemorative version.**

The company blossomed, and in 1998 Miller entered into a partnership with Robert Wolaver and his west coast organic brewing company. In 2002 Miller retired from the brewing business and sold Otter Creek to Wolaver, who quickly began an expansion of the operation. Otter Creek/Wolaver now sells nine year-round beers plus a plethora of seasonal and special release brews.

Though no brewing was taking place on the tour day, visitors did get to witness the bottling process, which included capping and labeling the commemorative fifteenth anniversary India Pale Ale (I.P.A.) on a recently purchased 22-ounce bottling machine. Brewmaster Steve Parkes, the brains behind every beer at Otter Creek, explained that the I.P.A. came about as sort of a misfit. This past fall, while Otter Creek employees were brainstorming a number of distinct beer types from around the world for the current, limited-time only World Tour line of brews, which includes labels such as Cerveza Cacao and Double Decker, the I.P.A. didn't seem to fit into any one category but was still a beer the company wanted to produce. It was chosen as the anniversary ale, made its debut in early March and will be sold throughout the coming year.

**This new India Pale Ale proves East Coast micro-brewing companies can make sophisticated, envelope-pushing beers.**
**—Brewmaster Steve Parkes**

True to all India Pale Ales, the Otter Creek I.P.A. boasts a large amount of hops and a high alcohol concentration, a tradition dating back to the 1700s, when the British hopped up their beer to survive the long journey from England to the mouths of thirsty expats in India. Hops are also added after the beer is finished brewing, creating the distinct taste I.P.A. originally gained from its oak holding barrels. Vermont, one of the last states to mandate alcohol content by state law, sets its cap at eight percent. Said Parkes proudly, "we wanted to go as high as we could and we got pretty close to our target: the I.P.A. is at 7.99 percent alcohol by volume." The beer is fairly light (second on the spectrum of tasting choices), but because of the hops it is also deeply flavorful. Parkes added that the I.P.A — "extravagantly and aggressively hopped" — is a step in a new direction for Otter Creek. "Previously Otter Creek has focused on drinkability," Parkes said. "But this new I.P.A. proves to the larger brewing community that East Coast microbrewing companies can make sophisticated, envelope-pushing beers [just as much as the West coast]."

While still in its nascent stages, the anniversary ale has proved popular, as has the special World Tour series, whose next stop is a traditional German lager available April 1. Employees would not divulge information on other forthcoming types, but assured us that each would have a unique flavor and traditional character. Each of these beers is also being produced in a 22-oz. size, almost twice as large as the standard 12-oz. beer bottle but smaller than the 64-oz. growler.

Amidst the anniversary festivities, Otter Creek continues business as usual, producing 250 barrels (or 500 kegs) of beer a day and 28,000 barrels (56,000 kegs) per year. Its primary business areas are concentrated in New England, though this too is starting to change as Otter Creek has expanded to new markets in the West (California, Oregon and Washington) and New Jersey (where sales nearly tripled last year). Look for the fifteenth anniversary I.P.A. on sale at stores near you and for other specialty brews to appear in the coming months. Production is in limited quantities, so grab them while you can.

# Anti-bullying talk triggers concern

## Parents pursuade principal to cancel gay rights presentation

By Katherine N. Doorley
*Local News Editor*

Vermont is often considered to be one of the most progressive and tolerant states in the nation, and is well known for initiatives such as Civil Unions. Thus, it might seem surprising that a Burlington area school is currently under fire for canceling a presentation by the gay rights organization Outright Vermont, showing that despite the surface of tolerance, even Vermonters have a long way to go toward acceptance. Last week, the organization was invited to speak at the Williston Central School as part of a series of anti-bullying presentations. But on the morning of the event, concerned parents presented strong objections to their seventh and eighth graders attending, and convinced the principal to cancel the event.

After the state legislature passed laws encouraging Vermont schools to initiate anti-bullying programs in their schools, the Williston School district began a series of assemblies and workshops for students called Safe and Supportive Schools. Outright Vermont was invited to give a presentation about respecting classmates regardless of their sexual orientation, and the event included a speech from a gay teen who came out in middle school.

Outreach Vermont, devotes itself to the goal of, "fostering sensitivity and understanding of the issues facing gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth." The organization works through educational programs and public presentations and, "seeks to challenge the stereotypes and prejudice and create an environment in which all young people can realize their full potential, free from the weight of hate and fear."

Parents were given the option to have their own children opt-out of the assembly and workshop if they were concerned about exposing their children to the subject. However, at a breakfast the morning of the workshop with the principal, several school board members and representatives from Outright Vermont, several parents came forward with a variety of strong concerns about the content of the presentation. These concerns caused the principal of the Williston Central School to cancel the workshop, much to the chagrin of the staff at Outreach Vermont. "I am disappointed that a very small minority of parents prevented Thursday's workshops from happening," stated co-director Kate Jerman. Jerman continued, "The students were well aware of the topic of our workshops and canceling it sent the message that it's not okay to talk about LGBT issues." Co-Director Lluvia Mulvaney-Stanak added that, "What happened in Williston is a perfect example of the bullying that exists not only in our schools, but in our communities. A handful of vocal parents were able to use fear and intimidation to bully the District Principal into canceling the day."

Outreach Vermont has stated their interest in participating in another workshop should the Williston school district decide to make a second attempt at the cancelled events. However it remains to be seen whether the school district will once again risk the wrath of angry parents in their efforts to expose their students to a variety of types of bullying and tolerance programs.

**A handful of vocal parents were able to use fear and intimidation to bully the District Principal.**

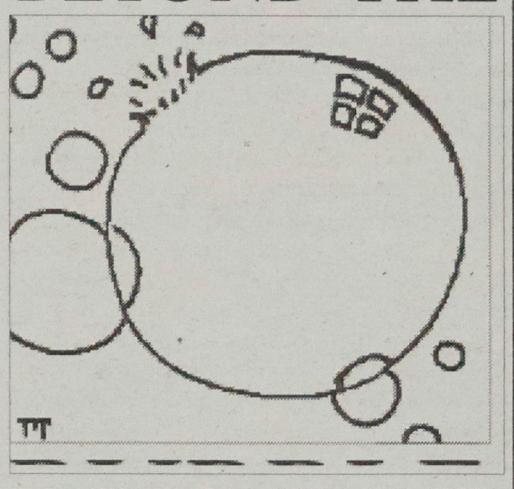
**—Lluvia Mulvaney-Stanak**

### Hair today gone tomorrow

Vlad Lodoaba

**Snipping away at the hair of Roscoe Pratt,** hairstylist Tracy Raymond converses with her co-workers and other customers in the shop. While it was a quiet day in the barbershop, everyone from town residents to college students can be seen getting trims from the barbers at the salon. The barbershop next to Neal and Otto's pizza place is one of several hair salons and barbershops in town catering to the town and College communities' needs. Whether looking for a simple trim and some conversation or more serious styling, the many establishments always welcome new customers.

# BEYOND THE BUBBLE



**By**
**Lisie Mehlman and Christine Nielson**

Maybe it's our undying love of country tunes. Maybe it's our shared secret wish to be mistaken for southern belles. Or maybe we just have a thing for cowboys.

Whatever the reason, Lisie has been dreaming about a southern road trip since she first learned that it was, in fact, the Atlantic Ocean that lay to the east of our great nation. Claire, who had no real dreams of her own, jumped on the bandwagon.

Our road trip of the southeast provided ample girl bonding on the wide-open road time. There was time to debate the difference between fitting road trip music and cliché road trip music. "Life is a Highway" — cliché. The *Titanic* song — fitting is an understatement. There was time to wear our cowboy hats inside multiple southern fast food joints. This allowed us to try Chick-Fil-A, an establishment that a certain friend (whose opinion bears significant weight on the subject at hand because it is spoken with a legit southern drawl) had raved about for years.

We were not disappointed. It also opened us up to immense ridicule. Matching cowboy hats in public places drew us a lot of attention. More than once, we were asked, verbatim, if the rodeo was in town.

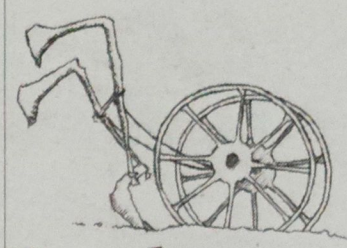
Our time spent out of the car was, arguably, even more entertaining. In Charleston, we took a highly informative carriage ride. The horse pulling our carriage was named Montegue and was incredibly disobedient. Repeating phrases such as "Woah Montegue" and "Montegue Woah" kept us more amused than you might imagine for the rest of the trip.

We forewent the carriage for a trolley when we hit Savannah, although we are still a little bitter that our travel buds opted against the Segway tour. Our bitterness was only amplified after enduring two grueling hours on the trolley with a tour guide who insisted on breaking into song sporadically when he wasn't pointing out landmarks significant to his immediate family rather than to say, the Civil War or Martin Luther King.

But we sure are glad we know which restaurant his nephew works at. From there, it was onto the beach. On St. Simon's Island there were picnics and long romantic strolls galore. Only Lisie could manage to get so sunburnt that she developed a dependency on Tylenol PM following a four hour stint in Georgia's partially cloudy 60 degree weather.

Claire's never-ending bitterness that Lisie got more sun than she was quickly redirected toward those who complimented Lisie's "tan." Claire is not a proponent of positively reinforcing a negative action.

Our first taste of southern living was almost as satisfying as our first bite of Chick-Fil-A. But, because we were unsuccessful at being mistaken for southern belles we will have to venture south again soon. Whoa Montegue.



# Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

Forget the Powerbars. Forget the steroids. No, the secret to athletic success is much sweeter.

Milk is more than just part of a balanced diet and a key element to making Wheaties the breakfast of champions. A recent study published in the International Journal of Sports Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism reported that chocolate milk is the perfect beverage for athletes to refueling with following rigorous exercise. According to the study conducted by Professor Joel Stanger of Indiana University, common sports drinks that claim to quickly recover tired muscles do not hold the same optimal ratio of carbohydrates to protein as chocolate milk. In addition, flavored milk contains seven other essential nutrients that are important for an athlete's health — including other electrolyte-replenishing elements and bone-building calcium.

The benefits of the delicious dairy product are nothing new to many athletes. Olympic swimmer and six-time gold medalist Michael Phelps preferred to drink Carnation Instant Breakfast swirled into a glass of milk in between his races. Who knows? Maybe the young men of the George Mason basketball team have also discovered the pathway to success with this athletic elixir.

The makers of Gatorade and Endurox-4 quickly rebutted the report with complaints that the dairy industry provided so much monetary support for the study that the results were bound to end in the farmers' favor. Of course, the dairy farm industry is both complex and not a multi-million dollar enterprise for its producers. In general, farmers only receive twenty cents per dollar of bottled milk sold at the store, meaning that from a $3.00 gallon of milk, $2.40 of what consumers pay go to the marketers and distributors, not to the farmer. Most farmers sell their produce to a "middle-man" who then process the products before sending them to a distributor and finally to the store shelves. The minimum price that dairy producers receive for a complex pricing mechanism determines milk they produce. Why then, would farmers not throw all of their support behind a discovery that would link dairy farms to the colossal money grossing sports industry?

Could the recent acclaim for chocolate milk help to revive the dairy industry, and finally give farmers the money they deserve? Well, milk is a rather dense beverage to chug while in the middle of physical activity. Unless the Bad News Bears of Kansas City miraculously revive their regular season record by downing some milk in between innings, it is highly unlikely that Nike or Reebok will offer to sponsor the dairy industry. But watch your back POWERade and AllSport, for it is milk that really does an athlete's body good.

# opinions

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## Editorial

### SGA funds, efforts would find more direct student impact elsewhere

The Student Government Association (SGA)-sponsored shuttles to Boston and New York have been enormously successful, often selling out rides well in advance and helping to eliminate travel plan headaches for many students.

*The Campus* does not believe that the weekly service to Burlington will be equally useful for students. With additional publicity, the number of students taking advantage of the service may increase from the five students that boarded the first shuttle offered, but with the shuttle running every Saturday, the novelty of the option will likely wear off soon after.

The impetus for the program, however, is commendable, especially the idea of assisting Addison County Transit (ACTR) in its efforts to provide more environmentally sound transportation and enabling the College to serve as a partner for the Local Match program, granting ACTR access to significant Federal funds. In terms of the College helping out a local business and town citizens, the partnership makes sense. But the proposal did not need to come from the SGA, which should focus its limited time and resources on the issues more directly relevant to student life.

It seems that the SGA could parlay the $2,000 it has devoted to funding the program until the year's end to a cause that would directly benefit more students. A reduced cost shuttle to the airport around breaks, for example, would ease travel worries for students who do not live in the New England area in the same way students from Boston and New York have benefited from the break shuttles.

The SGA should also be working with the student body on issues of social life on campus, arguably one of the main concerns to current Middlebury students. The organization should gauge student opinion on social life, which is currently in a transitory phase, and formulate policy goals.

From the College's end, encouraging students to support town businesses should take priority over granting students increased access to Burlington.

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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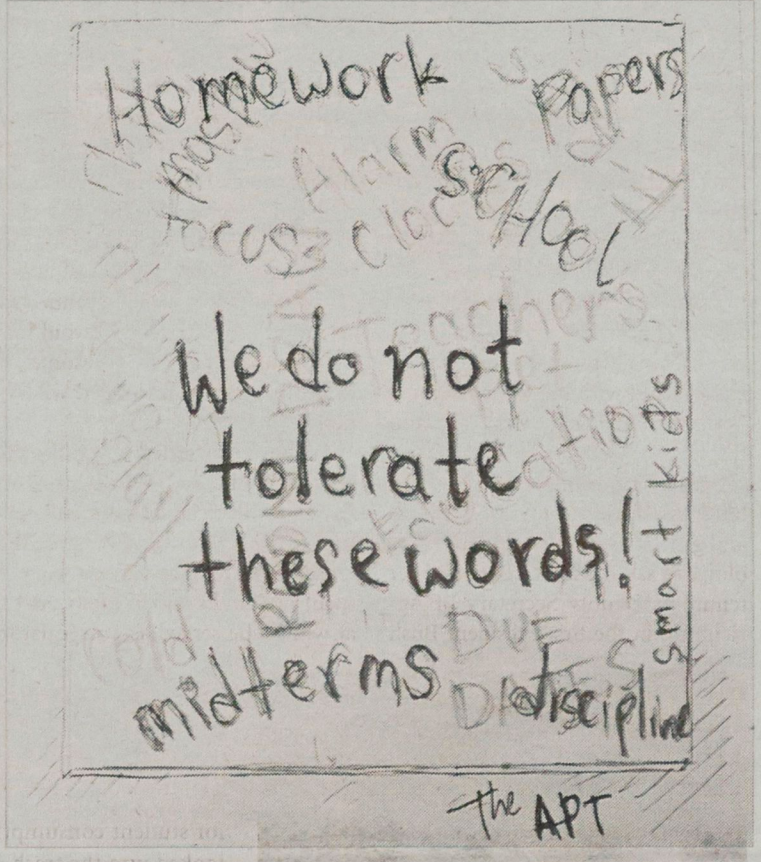
## HEARD ON CAMPUS

"ALTHOUGH MARK'S PROFESSIONAL LIFE UNDENIABLY REFLECTED WORK OF THE HIGHEST AND MOST ADMIRABLE CALIBER, HIS PERSONALITY AND UNIQUE VIRTUES WERE WHAT MADE HIM SO EXEMPLARY AS A SCHOLAR, FRIEND AND HUMAN BEING."

— Laura Reid '04.5 on recently deceased Visiting Assistant Professor of German and Lingusits Mark Southern




## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Many Vermonters have heard of GMOs, or Genetically Modified Organisms, especially in light of the discussion about the Farmer Protection Act. Despite all of this publicity, many people still have questions about GMOs. What are GMOs? And why do the European Union, Japan and others refuse to buy GMO foods? What are the benefits of growing GE crops? What are the risks? These are all questions that we should be able to answer. After all, this is not only about the food that we eat, and that our friends and family eat every day (70 percent of processed foods contain GMOs).

This is also about genes: new, man-made DNA that will be here for the rest of time. When the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves a drug and later finds out about adverse side effects, it is easy to take the drug off the market. But if the FDA finds problems with GMO foods down the road, how will they get all of the altered DNA out of our crops and food supply?

They won't be able to. One would think that the FDA would not allow GMOs in our food supply if they had not first been proven safe for consumption. But can we be so sure when the person who wrote the FDA regulations allowing GMO foods also worked for the companies who sell GMO seeds? If you want to find out more about GMOs, please come to a showing of "The Future of Food."

This documentary is very up-to-date, and will answer all of these questions and more. There is a FREE showing scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, at 7 p.m. at the Ilsley Library Meeting Room in Middlebury. There is also a showing at the Hartland Library on Friday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. I hope you can make it.

Sincerely,
Kate Corrigan
Shoreham, Vt.

To the Editor:

In the March 16 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*, the newspaper staff criticized the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) in the "Winners & Losers" weekly report. MCAB is blamed for not showing an early screening of "The Chronicles of Narnia," and for the 9:30 p.m. screening starting late, on Friday, March 10. Please keep in mind that MCAB provides a service — a free service in regard to the Free Friday Film series — to the College community.

Because "The Chronicles of Narnia" runs 139 minutes, Media Services requested that the second screening not begin until 10 p.m. as a favor for the projectionists. Had MCAB not granted this change, the second screening would have begun just 10 minutes after the first one ended, and the projectionists would not have had much of a break during the five-hour period.

Until last spring, MCAB traditionally screened each free Friday film just twice. Nowadays, an extra screening is offered for most — not all — films. As a heads-up, "Memoirs of a Geisha" is even longer than "The Chronicles of Narnia" so on April 21, there will once again be two screenings at 7 and 10 p.m.

Sincerely,
David Schoenholtz '07
Bethesda, Md.

SEE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, PAGE 10

# Speaker does not reflect College values

Given the College's commitments to international studies and civic engagement, as well as its location in rural Vermont, the choice of Ann Veneman ["Veneman To Address Grads," March 16] as commencement speaker would seem an inspired one: she was raised on a "family farm in a small rural community" and became the first woman to serve as Secretary of Agriculture, from 2001 to 2005, before her most recent appointment as Executive Director of UNICEF. (It should be said, however, that the "small rural community" was outside Modesto, Calif., an agribusiness hub whose current population exceeds 200,000, and that the patriarch of the "family farm" represented Stanislaus in the California Assembly and later served as an undersecretary in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare under President Nixon.)

After some reflection, however, we are concerned that the choice is inconsistent with the values of the College and with the values of most Vermonters. Those who applaud the College's efforts to support local farms, for example, will find her long association with agribusiness and genetically modified foods troubling, to say the least. Between her tenure as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture in the first President Bush administration and her appointment as Secretary of the California Food and Agriculture Department in the mid 1990s, for example, she served on the board of directors at Calgene, and represented the interests of Dole Foods in Washington. Later, as Secretary of Agriculture, she would receive a joint letter from the members of Vermont's Congressional delegation, who cited the treatment of dairy farmers as an example of the administration's "farmer unfriendly" policies.

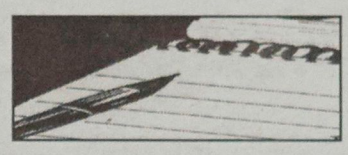
Environmentalists will likewise be troubled that, in her role as overseer of the United States Forest Service, she led the administration's efforts to reverse the Clinton administration's protection of 60 million acres of public lands from road construction, logging and other development. As an editorial in the *Washington Post* (July 16, 2004) noted, the new policies, intended to ease land use restrictions, "would … eviscerate protections for some of the country's last unspoiled wilderness."

Those concerned about the effects of "unchecked globalization" on nations both rich and poor will perhaps also be disappointed. Since the Uruguay Round of General Agreement on Tarrifs and Trade (GATT), at which she served as a negotiator, former Secretary Veneman has been a prominent advocate of unfettered trade. Indeed, her positions on agriculture and trade are related: as Secretary, for example, she opposed the "precautionary principle" that would allow countries or, in the case of the European Union, groups of countries, to regulate imports of genetically modified foods pending further research.

It comes as no surprise, then, that her appointment as Executive Director of UNICEF has drawn criticism. In a recent "Online Beat" column for *The Nation*, John Nichols quotes from a letter from Ravi Narayan of the People's Health Movement to Secretary General Kofi Annan, in which Narayan concludes that "her performance in [her previous positions] has been characterized by the elevation of corporate profit above people's right to food (U.N. Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25). Such a philosophy and practice would reverse almost six decades of UNICEF's proud humanitarian history and prove disastrous for the world's children." Furthermore, a recent article in Planned Parenthood's *Choice!* raised important concerns about her positions on women's rights and sex education, and their implications for UNICEF's mission.

We do not mean to suggest that there is nothing to admire in her record, or that other colleges and universities would not find her an inspirational commencement speaker. We believe, however, that our own commencement should celebrate better the particular values that characterize Middlebury, both College and town.

David H. Bain, English
Eduardo C. Béjar, Spanish
Jeffrey Carpenter, Economics
Jane Chaplin, Classics
David Dorman, Mathematics
Elizabeth Endicott, History
Gloria Estela González, Spanish
Leger Grindon, Film and Media Culture
William Hart, History
Ana Martinez-Lage, Spanish
Christopher McGrory Klyza, Political Science and Environmental Studies
Peter Hans Matthews, Economics
Paul Monod, History
Sujata Moorti, Women's and Gender Studies
Kamakshi P. Murti, German
Margaret Nelson, Sociology and Anthropology
Michael Olinick, Mathematics
Ellen Oxfeld, Sociology and Anthropology
Paula Schwartz, French



## NOTES
FROM THE DESK

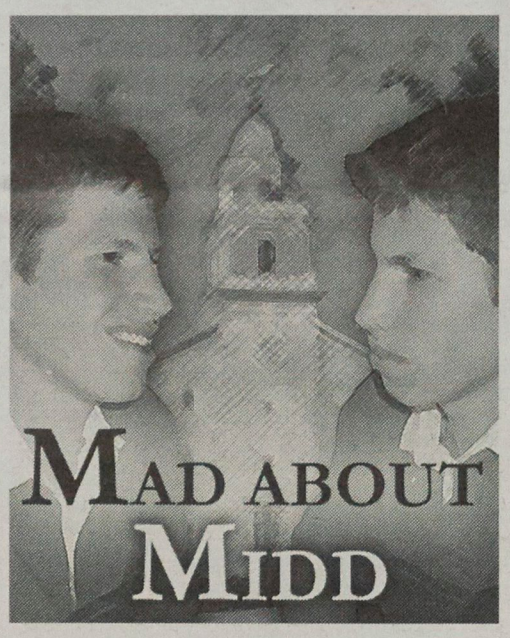
If Eli Berman asks, "Why does smoking exist on campus at all?" why don't we ask, why does Eli Berman exist on the Student Government Association (SGA)? This is not to question Berman's authority, but rather, to remind ourselves of the SGA president's role in the first place. The leader of the SGA serves the student body — the entire student body. If he wants to eliminate smoking, he's effectively negating all smokers, who, for better or worse, exist. Berman, whether he deems it to his liking or not, should acknlowledge that as they come up with alternative proposals.

While it's good that the College discourages smoking, there needs to be a balance on a healthy restriction. Community Council should consider this: smokers generally abide by the rules and keep their habit outdoors. In a place where winter lasts six months and temperatures normally drop as low as nine degrees, this is a concerted effort indeed. If smokers are to be relegated to further distances, it means they have to stand outside to do something that in most major cities — New York and Boston included — can be done comfortably in the doorway. It's difficult to see how someone can complain that their "sense of self" is being violated, as Berman said, by holding their breath for two seconds as they pass an entrance, especially when smokers do what is reasonably expected of them to virtually eliminate the negative impact of their unhealthy habit on others.

If the Council continues tightening smoking rules, the results could be far worse than a simple temporary loss of the "sense of self." We could lose the smokers themselves, who, if we peel beyond the smokey layers, are a group of talented, intelligent students like all the other Middkids.

As head of an organization is supposed to represent the entire student body, Berman should not be asking "Why is there even smoking here at all?" but rather, consider that smokers, who are themselves considerate of others, have the right to exist on campus — and not just in some snowdrift 50 feet away.

— Joyce Man
Arts Editor




# Dining Hall Danger...

By Dave Barker
*Opinion Columnist*

Though I have already alerted the College administration and the Director of Dining Services, I felt it necessary to share with students an incident I observed on Tuesday morning while working my usual shift as a kitchen helper at Atwater Dining Hall. As I was making banana bread for Wednesday's breakfast, a pan of cooked sausage links waiting to be moved to the serving line was bumped, causing it to fall into a trash can. The links were quickly collected from the trash can and then sent to the serving line for student consumption. A few minutes later, I looked into the trash can to see that it had been far from clean; a Dining Services employee had used it earlier to discard the trimmings from raw beef steaks for that evening's meal.

Letting food for immediate student consumption come into contact with raw and bloody meat is a sanitation risk that even the most clueless chef knows to avoid. A Dining Services employee I asked about the incident replied by saying: "Oh well, I'm not eating the links." I have no idea if any students became sick after eating the contaminated sausage, but I worry that such lax behaviors could compromise this school's reputation as a national leader in college cuisine if something serious were to happen.

Sorry for jumping the gun two days early. With April Fool's Day this Saturday, my brain has focused less on textbooks and syllabi and more on brainstorming possible pranks. Sadly, practical jokes are few and far between on campus. The Frisbee-flinging Pranksters occasionally prank students now and again with nude dashes through the library or the dining hall.

I wonder, though, why can't Middlebury's ambitious and ingenious scholars scheme up pranks worthy of those at a college like MIT, where the student's best "hacks" were described in a 2003 book? The absence of an engineering school needn't be an excuse. A prank that Yale students pulled at a past Harvard football game led to thousands of Harvard fans holding up pieces of paper that combined to spell "We Suck." A well-performed senior prank would be far more enduring than a biodiesel drunk bus, this year's Class Gift. Here are a few ideas:

**CSO Spring Fling II**

Design a Web site on how to run a successful pyramid scheme and then put up posters around campus advertising a new Web site for job-lacking seniors, www.middalumns.com

**A triple billing**

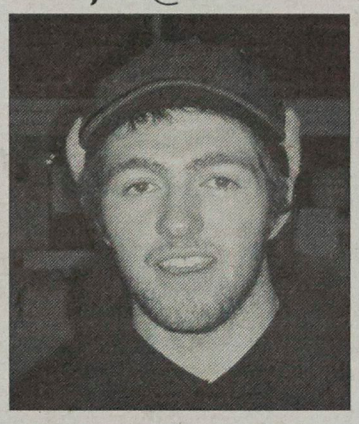
Hide a CD/Alarm Clock in the concert space for the Jurassic 5 concert that would be set to go off prior to the show, playing Dwight Yoakum.

**Parting words**

Just as President Liebowitz steps to the microphone for his annual speech, have someone slowly drive a large-size vehicle on the edge of Voter lawn with a banner attached to the side proclaiming: "Is the diploma really worth giving up beirut?"

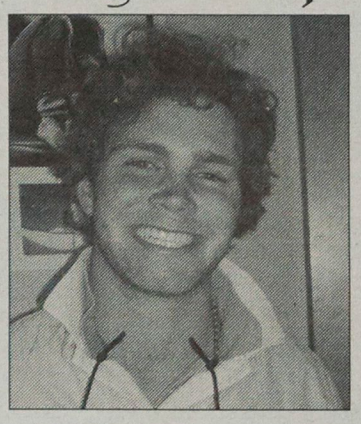
If your prank doesn't result in a trip before the judicial board, consider yourself a success. Don't worry: the employees at Atwater Dining Hall do a spectacular job.

# The Middlebury Campus online poll



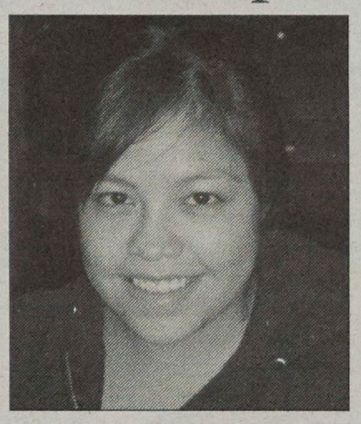
"NO. J-CREW IS STRAIGHT THUG."

—SPENCER PADDOCK '09



"DEFINITELY NOT."

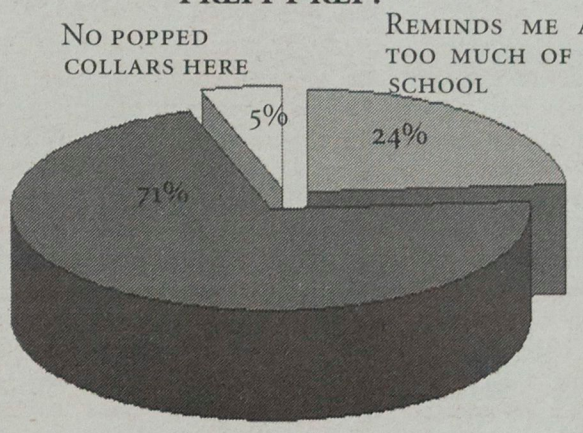
—R. RIDGELY CHEW II '08.5



"IT DOES DESERVE ITS PREPPY REPUTATION BUT IT ALSO DESERVES OTHERS."

—DARCEL WILLIAMS '06

**DOES MIDDLEBURY DESERVE ITS PREPPY REP?**




Not more than any other $160,000 education.

Results based on 144 responses collected between March 15 and March 29 at www.middleburycampus.com

How do you feel about political correctness at Middlebury?

# Veneman: public servant or tomater hater?

I tell you, Ron, I'm a bit confused. When you announced that Ann Veneman would be our commencement speaker ["Veneman to Address Grads," March 16], you characterized her as someone capable of providing "an important and relevant message to students who would be leaving the relatively protected confines of Middlebury to pursue various jobs, volunteer work and studies." But when I think about it, I wonder what her message will be.

Perhaps that we should consider helping the world's children? Veneman, I understand, was recently appointed head of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), whose logo we all recognize from trick-or-treating. Or else that we should consider careers in agro-politics? In that realm, she set a shining example for us as President Bush's Secretary of Agriculture from 2001 to 2005.

These sound like nice things to do. I imagine she is a very nice person, besides.

But there are so many messages to impress upon impressionable college students these days, Ron! Veneman, you know, also served on the board of biotech giant Calgene (later bought out by Monsanto) in 1994 when its infamous "Flavr Savr" tomato became the first mass-marketed genetically modified food product. Before her appointment as Secretary of California's Department of Food and Agriculture in 1995, she lobbied for Dole Foods, a corporation with a curious penchant for supporting brutal dictatorships, labor violations and environmental abuse in the "developing" world. And her policies on meat safety and forestry under our nation's fearless leader strike me as, shall we say, less than hopeful?

Plus, her record seems to mock the values of our local landscape. A year ago, the Vermont Senate voted 26-1 in favor of the Farmer Protection Act — a bill protecting small farmers from lawsuits brought by companies like Monsanto in the event that genetically modified seeds infiltrate their non-GMO crops. As a state, Vermont has presented the strongest resistance in the country to genetically modified foods, and Middlebury itself is one of 83 Vermont towns to have passed an anti-GMO town resolution. Oh, and our world-renowned environmental writer-in-residence Bill McKibben's 2003 book Enough: "Staying Human in an Engineered Age" outlines the grave potential dangers of genetic engineering to human and environmental well-being.

Considering these facts, one wonders if perhaps you misspoke when you announced Veneman as our commencement speaker. Did you mean to say Alec Webb, the founder of Shelburne Farms, to whom you're awarding an honorary degree? After all, his organization is a nationally recognized paradigm of environmental and social responsibility!

Understandably, my fellow seniors are baffled by the selection:

Susannah Patty '06, a loyal member of the Organic Garden, contemplates the disjuncture between Veneman's politics and the pulse of the Middlebury campus community: "As a class, we already embody the 'green ribbon' social and environmental responsibility pledge that so many of us will take upon graduation, the Fair Trade Coffee Campaign, Sunday Night Group and the Organic Garden's seed saving initiative all engage these values," she says. "It seems only just to sponsor a commencement speaker who can both testify to what we have accomplished in these four years and provide an example of the kind of integrity and responsibility we plan to uphold in our new capacities after graduation."

Tara Vanacore '06, granddaughter of honorary degree recipient Lihua Yu, points out that Veneman "supports the very industries that are forcing family farms out of existence." "Having grown up in Vermont," she reflects, "I've witnessed too many small farms suffering at the hands of the larger dairy and cattle industries. Veneman's connections to biotech corporations reveal that she is no more a purveyor of social justice than a speaker from Monsanto would be."

Senior RA of the Environmental Studies House Alyssa Jumars questions both "the process and rationale" behind the selection of Veneman as our speaker: "To a graduating class with so many seniors striving to understand and act upon the ethics of sustainable agriculture, the choice comes as a slap in the face," she asserts.

Pray tell, what exactly is the ethical message you hope Veneman will fill us with? And Ron, how can you reconcile that message with the kind of sustainable, environmentally and socially conscientious vision for Addison County and the world that Middlebury purports to represent? The whole affair remains as mysterious to me as, say, a genetically modified tomato!

MIKE IVES '06.5
AN INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR
FROM LARCHMONT, N.Y.

# What did I do wrong?

I'm sorry. Whatever I did, I'm sorry — apologies all around. Tell me whom to write to, and I'll send them a letter on my best stationery stock. Were we that much worse than last year's class? Is the swim team hazing being pinned on all of us? Why have we been swindled out of a decent commencement speaker? Rudy Giuliani spoke last year. From what I heard he was pretty good — he even cracked a joke about the Yankees. More importantly, people have heard of him. My parents. My friends.

I have no doubt in my mind that Ann Veneman is a kind, decent woman. Her professional accomplishments are nothing short of impressive. As Secretary of the College John Emerson said, "[she] is unique in having achieved a very high level of leadership in at least two very different and seemingly unrelated areas."

But this is *my* commencement speaker. If we were talking about a Tuesday night lecture in Robert A. Jones '59 House, I might find her arrival on campus compelling. However, under our current circumstances I am embarrassed. Did our *U.S. News & World Report* ranking drop so low that we can't land anyone to give a speech? I'm not so demanding as to think it was "Obama or Bust" (not that he would have been a bad choice), but a school's commencement speaker is a public statement of the school's reputation and prestige. Bringing a speaker who would not be recognized in her local supermarket is like waving the white flag to all other liberal arts schools.

I understand that following Rudy and Superman, there was a chance we would be disappointed. But this is going too far. It is insulting. Our College has many terrific connections in business, politics and entertainment, let alone money enough to buy the time of anyone we don't have an "in" with.

It comes down to this: a commencement speaker is about the name. I want to look back 15 years from now, after I've done the CSO-suggested year in Vail and after I've figured out whatever it is I'm going to do with my life, and when my little boy or girl looks up to me and asks who spoke at my commencement, to be able to say with a straight face and chest out, "so and so." Someone who is famous. Someone who *matters*. With Ann Veneman, I will have to look away, mutter under my breath "former Secretary of Agriculture," and try to change the subject so I don't have to admit the truth, the truth that my school let me and my family down, that my school did not appreciate the hard work I did during my four years and that the College did not appreciate the love I poured into every second I spent at the College on the Hill. Frankly, my friends and I deserve better than this slap in the face, this embarrassment to finish my college career. I love Middlebury and everything it has done for me. My life is as good as it is because of Middlebury, which is why this choice offends me so much. Ann Veneman is a choice that makes me scratch my head and say, "why?" because I thought it was common knowledge that commencement speakers represent certain ideals, namely that their reputation, recognition and public persona mirror the College's. They are supposed to be our equal in terms of status. Is parity with the last several years out of the question?

> We should not have a speaker who students assume is a close personal friend of Ron Liebowitz.

We should not have a speaker who, on first reaction, students assume is a close personal friend of Ron Liebowitz who could benefit from the six figures we can give a commencement speaker. Is it too late to switch Jurassic 5 into the commencement speaker slot? How about one of the comedians coming for "Best Week Ever?" At least they've been on TV before.

JACK DONALDSON '06
A HISTORY MAJOR
FROM NEW YORK, N.Y.

## Letters to the Editor

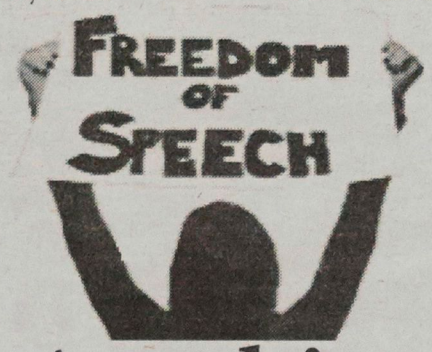
To the Editor:

Colleges and universities across the country are leveraging the weight of their endowments to take a stand against the genocide in Darfur. By divesting from companies whose revenues contribute to the Sudanese government, our peer institutions, including Amherst, Dartmouth and Brown, are practicing the ethics and responsibility that they preach in their mission statements. The University of California recently made national headlines as the first major public university to join the divestment movement, divesting from several companies with ties to the Sudanese government. In her March 16 opinions piece Jessica Early '09 left me wondering: Where does Middlebury stand on this issue?

I turned to Middlebury's Web site, assuming our righteous little College would be at the forefront of this movement, but I was disappointed to find no mention of the issue. Maybe we are supposed to assume that Middlebury is responsible without expecting a public statement or disclosure, but that would be a far cry from the "rigorous analysis and independent thought" that the College cultivates, according to our newest mission statement.

I appreciate that Early and her organization are working to make socially responsible investment a priority and I second her call for greater transparency in the College's investment policies. But right now, today, President Ronald D. Liebowitz and the Board of Trustees need to issue a clear statement of Middlebury's investment practices with regard to companies having financial ties to the genocide in Sudan. If Old Chapel is unable or unwilling to make this statement, I hope Early will not be the only one demanding Middlebury put its money where its mouth is.

Sincerely,
Ben Salkowe '07
Cambridge, Mass.




# Say Anything

If there is but one primal, universal and absolute first principle of moral philosophy, it is that killing innocent people is wrong. Even if you do not accept this principle as a moral imperative, you must accept it as a matter of praxis, for the sake of living together on this planet with others.

Likewise, if there is a first principle of democracy, it is the freedom of speech. Democracy functions as a marketplace of ideas, and the marketplace cannot work if we don't allow people to say what they want. It is in light of these two seemingly self-evident ideas that I am horrified by the public discourse surrounding the recent Danish cartoons of Mohammed.

I was raised Episcopalian. When, in 1999 Chris Ofili debuted his now-infamous painting "The Holy Virgin Mary" in the Brooklyn Museum of Art, I found it to be in bad taste. New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani did as well, and ordered that it be removed. The museum took him to court, and Federal district court found that Giuliani's order was unconstitutional. That was the end of the issue. That is an example of how a rational society deals with the conflict between religious values and the freedom of speech.

According to Wikipedia, the fallout from the Danish cartoons included the burning down of the Danish embassy in Beirut, the destruction of an American air base in Afghanistan and a staggering total of 139 murders (one of them, Andrea Santoro, a Catholic priest). This is by no standard acceptable.

The Middlebury community, however, seems to be singing a different tune. The real tragedy, I am told, is not the murder of 139 innocent people who had nothing to do with the cartoons. The real tragedy is that the West in general, and I in particular, are not tolerant enough of the Islamic faith. I was unaware that the murder of 139 people was either a part of the Islamic faith, or that it fell under the umbrella of things of which I must be tolerant.

But the real issue here has nothing to do with Islam. As Professor Murray Dry accurately noted at the forum, what is on trial here is not Islam, nor the Danish cartoonists, nor ourselves for our "intolerance." What is on trial is freedom of speech itself, and in the court of public opinion, it has been given a death sentence in the name of tolerance and sensitivity. What is the freedom of speech, if not the freedom to offend? If saying something is verboten the moment that someone else doesn't like it, what would we be allowed to say? Tolerance, in the last 15 or so years, has undergone a grotesque mutation. It has transformed from the noble virtue of accepting others who are different, to the insane and neo-Fascist dogma of speech censorship, sensitivity training and mindless totemistic invocations of the word "diversity," all conducted under the banner of a rainbow swastika. Tolerance as it exists today is an abomination and an enemy of democracy and free-thinking people everywhere. The international community is now at a crossroads. We must decide which we value more, the individual's right to speak his mind, or the individual's right to never hear anything he or she doesn't like. We can't have both. The rioters were wrong to kill people, the high-ups in the Iranian government who incited them to riot were wrong too, but the people history will remember as the true villains are those who remained silent as the freedom of speech was crucified upon a cross of tolerance.

ANDREW CARNABUCI '06
A HISTORY MAJOR
FROM MOUNT KISCO, N.Y.

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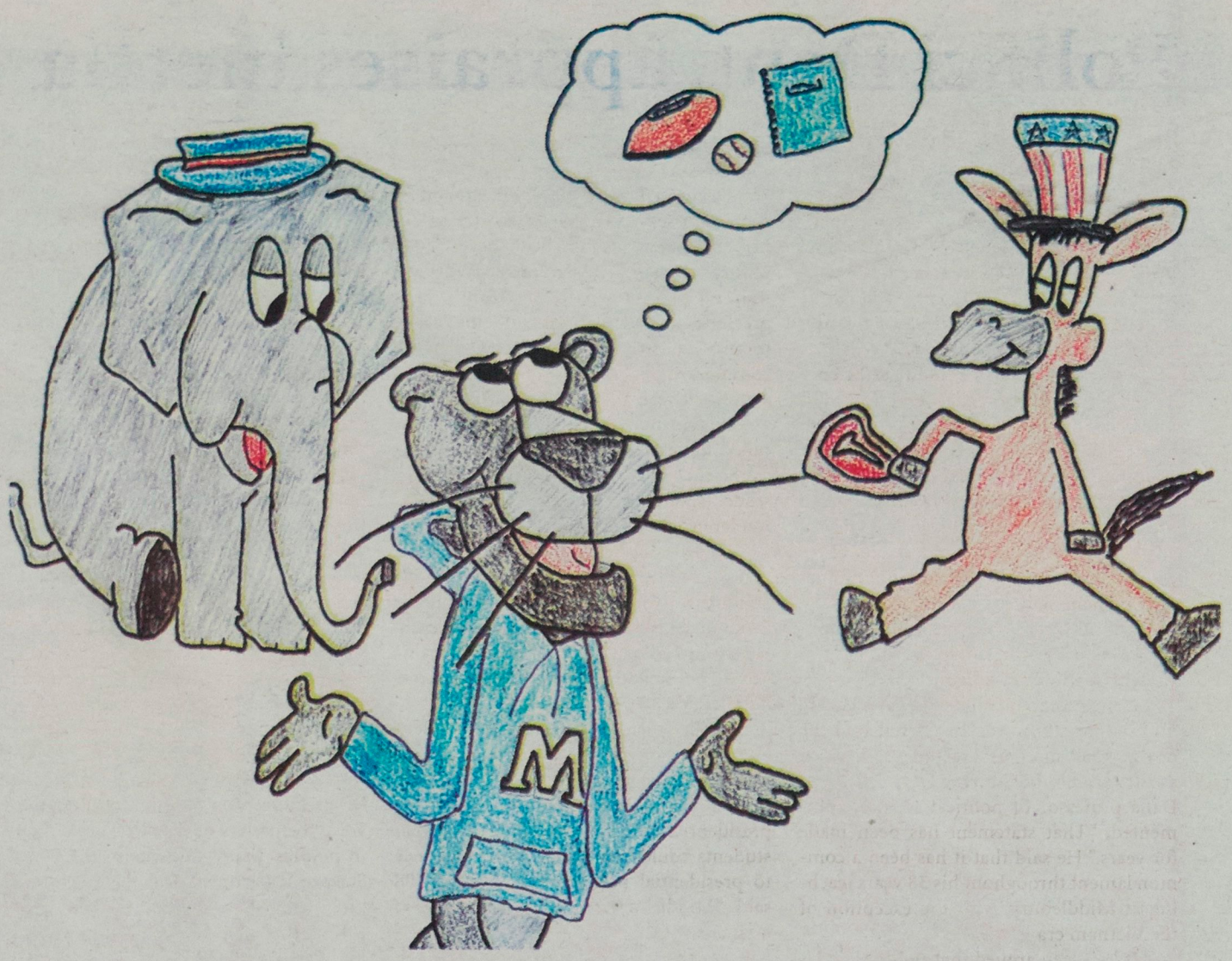
# APATHY OR ACTIVISM?

Dear Readers:

This week, Focus has shifted gears to a story-driven approach to bring you a comprehensive overview of political life and activist involvement on campus and beyond.



## Faculty, students diverge on nat'l issues

By Michael Stefanik
*Staff Writer*

A recent survey based on data from a 1999 North American Academic Study Survey (NAASS) that questioned 1,643 teachers at 183 four-year higher-education institutions nationwide seems to shed light on a political bias toward progressivism on college campuses across the country.

Students and faculty seem to be heading in divergent directions. The study claims that 72 percent of professors identify themselves as liberal, compared to a minute 15 percent of conservatives. Fifty percent are Democrats and 11 percent Republicans. These present-day figures represent a sharp increase from data obtained in 1984, where only 39 percent of college faculty identified with liberalism in the heyday of Reaganism.

The shift has pervaded all departments. In English literature, 88 percent were liberal and 3 percent conservative. In sociology, 59 percent were Democrats and none were Republicans, demonstrating the tendency of the humanities and social sciences to lean left. Physics and chemistry, on the other hand, are 66 and 64 percent liberal, respectively.

Students, conversely, seem to be heading in a different direction. Traditionally regarded as free-thinking liberal strongholds, college campuses are now seeing a shift in the political views of students. A study, conducted by the Institute of Politics at Harvard University, claims 27 percent of college students claim to be Democrats, 31 percent Republican, and 38 percent independent or unaffiliated. Sixty-one percent of the students surveyed approved of President Bush's job performance, nine percent higher than the general public.

A possible reason for this may be the more-than-$35 million poured into college campuses by conservative groups every year. Another claim has been made that the right is a more unified, concise and passionate movement on college campuses and the left undisciplined and segmented along ideological and issue-based lines. Some have argued that the left is now being seen as reactionary and cliché to students on campuses. Student conservatives have positioned themselves as underdogs on oppressively liberal campuses. The overwhelming majority of liberal professors at academic institutions has been a cause for alarm with some, most notably reactionary author David Horowitz. Through his promotion of his "Academic Bill of Rights," an eight-point manifesto in which he seeks to eliminate political bias at universities in hiring and grading. He claims that a "liberal bias" at universities systematically excludes Republicans from joining college faculties. Until this happens, Horowitz claims, no diversity at the college level can be absolute.

However, critics like Horowitz and studies like the NAASS tend to look only at the present state of affairs rather than postulating possible explanations, such as the tendency of liberals to value public service and their possible subsequent willingness to take low-paying jobs such as those in education.

## Partisan clubs lament inaction

By Jason F. Siegel
*Focus Editor*

The College Republicans and the College Democrats have many things in common: they believe that the political scene is unquestionably liberal, they view themselves as havens for like-minded students, and they suffer from the political apathy that pervades the campus.

Zach Elmore '08, vice-president of the College Republicans, said that while on campus, Democrat or Republican students tend to be disengaged from political or partisan activities. He believes that students were more likely to get involved in political campaigns at home and not Vermont.

Tara Sun Vanacore '06, member of the College Democrats, agreed. "Middlebury is liberal in name, apathetic in reality," she said. Though she acknowledged that there are fluctuations in attendance coinciding with the political atmosphere in the country, she also admitted that the group has around 100 people on its mailing list, and that fewer than 10 percent of them come regularly to meetings.

This is not to say that the groups have accomplished nothing. Recently, the Democrats brought in Anthony Arnove, author of "Voices of the People's History of America," a performance companion to Howard Zinn's landmark textbook, "The People's History of America." Last year, the Democrats and Republicans together sponsored a voter registration drive, and for the last two years they have organized a Career in Politics Panel. This year's panel will be on April 11.

Both the Democrats and the Republicans view their meetings as a safe space for students. Elmore said that conservative students on campus especially need the space, since they tend to stay quiet about their views. Vanacore described the Democrats' meetings as a place for anyone discontented with the current state of affairs in the nation, rather than just for Democrats.

Additionally, Middlebury clubs are not allowed to accept funding from outside organizations, which means that they are not eligible for the resources of the many conservative foundations or handful of progressive organizations that offer money to spread their viewpoints and hold events amenable to the outsiders' ideologies.

Even so, both groups have nominal connections with their larger parties. The College Republicans recently had dinner with Lieutenant Governor Brian Dubie, while the Democrats attended a rally led by former presidential candidate Senator John Kerry in the fall.

Unavailable for comment were representatives of the Progressives. Vanacore remarked that the Progressives were amorphous, while Elmore echoed a similar statement, saying that progressives on campus tend to gravitate toward causes rather than partisan activities.

## History of campus activism:

By Laura Barrett
*Staff Writer*

Middlebury students have long been active in movements for political and social change, both here in small-town Vermont and within the larger, national context. Over the past 40 years or so, the ways that activism has been manifested and the issues which have captured the attention of the campus have changed again and again. Always, there have been individuals and small groups attending marches, reaching out to the community through service and lobbying hard for specific agendas. Here, we recall some issues which seemed to affect the student body as a whole, and which often reflect the concerns of the country during those times.

### *Women's Rights*

In 1967, the editor in chief of *The Middlebury Campus* wrote an editorial about the injustice of rules for the women students that did not apply to the men, including curfews, signing out when going out at night and restrictions on drinking. The students, over the course of three years, successfully lobbied for visiting hours on the weekend, when they would be able to be in a room of a person of the opposite sex with the door open, and then for co-ed housing.

### *Vietnam War*

The strong possibility of being drafted once they graduated from college sparked strong interest from the men on campus in the anti-war protests. Women became very involved as well, because their friends, brothers and lovers would be going off to fight and maybe to die in a war that they did not necessarily believe in. Students conducted sit-ins and attended marches. There was also a teach-in in Mead Chapel, as many of the faculty were also sympathetic to their cause.

# INSIDE MIDD POLITICS

## PoliSci Dept. appraises inertia

By Rich Saunders
*Staff Writer*

In an environment like Middlebury's it is easy to ignore the world. The school prides itself on the awareness and involvement of its students, but many feel that the student body is not as politically active as it might like to think.

Students within the Political Science department feel that the campus is less informed and less involved than it should be. Lee Ware '06 commented on a lack of awareness about "the issues actually being debated in Washington." "It seems tragic to me that so many 'political' students have a cursory knowledge of something like global warming but know nothing about topics like campaign finance reform," she said.

Those who are concerned about politics are equally worried about the level of student apathy at Middlebury.

Concerns about student awareness are nothing new, however. In reference to the charge that students are not as involved as they should be, Murray Dry, Charles A. Dana professor of political science, commented, "That statement has been made for years." He said that it has been a common lament throughout his 38 years teaching at Middlebury, with the exception of the Vietnam era.

It has been argued that political activism is not a part of the purely academic college experience.

Dry noted a decline in enrollment in some courses with heavier workloads in his department, which he believes is an unfortunate result of cautious students not wanting to overload their schedules and preclude involvement outside the classroom. "Ten years later they'll regret it," he commented.

A leftward tilt is often visible within the student body. Neil D'Astolfo '07.5 recalled his first-year seminar in the Political Science department, noting that of 15 students, only two identified themselves as moderate or conservative.

Doug Campbell '06 said, "I think that a majority of the campus believes it is liberal," but wondered how well most students would defend their positions if confronted. He also stated that many "students on campus do not investigate issues outside of our bubble."

While the worry that the student body does not care is not unfounded, political awareness spikes during election time. D'Astolfo recalled that in 2004, the presidential election seemed to be all that students could talk about. With reference to presidential politics, Max Nardini '08 said, "Middlebury students seem to be at least anti-Bush, if not pro-Democrat," and believes that this stems more from a disapproval of the current administration's myopic tendencies than support for any of the opposition.

Nardini also stated, "An environmentalist is not necessarily pro-choice, or a gay rights sympathizer or anti-state sponsored execution. While often openly leaning left, Midd-kids form their own opinions on an issue-by-issue basis." The immensely popular Sunday Night Group allows for students to concern themselves with individual issues like environmentalism without worrying too deeply about party politics.

Bertram Johnson, assistant professor of Political Science, also noted a trend away from party politics and toward politics of causes. He remarked on a greater capacity of students to be "analytical about their [political] involvement," discussing that there is less irrationality in student activism today than in the past. This is remarkable, considering how easily present events could push students towards irrational behavior.

While Middlebury students have access to many active groups to represent political interests on campus, most do not involve themselves or display a great interest in politics. Many students in the Political Science department feel that the student body could be more active. "Why are we getting this education if not to implement it?" Ware wondered.

## Joe & Jane Midd wax political

By James Dolan
*Focus Editor*

In order to figure out where the average student stands on the issues of political activism and affiliation at Middlebury, *The Middlebury Campus* decided to interview several students at random.

Every student questioned tended to believe that there is sometimes a perceived liberal majority on the campus, when in fact there are more conservatives than many think. Emily Pyeatt '06.5 said, "I think the number of students seems split in terms of democrats and republicans, which many people might not believe." Other students shared Pyeatt's view. Kevin Bergesen '07 said, "I think that the most vocal part of the campus is liberal, but there are definitely a fair amount of conservatives."

The idea that many conservative students are less vocal about their political views was a common point touched on by interviewees. Justin Wright '08 said, "A lot of people that are conservative tend to keep quiet about it. You can see this when a faculty member makes a political comment on something like Iraq or Bush. If it is a negative comment, the students in the class who look uncomfortable, or stir in their chairs, are most likely conservative."

Wright's comment brings up another aspect of politics on campus: the faculty. Every student questioned seemed to think that the faculty leans to the left. Sophomore Lauren Van Wagenen said, "I've been in a couple classes where it was clear that the professor held liberal views. A lot of times they are prompted by students saying something about Iraq, at which point they reveal whether or not they support or condemn the situation."

Bergesen also said, "As a political science major you can often tell whether or not a teacher is liberal or conservative by looking at how they structure each lecture."

All of the interviewed students touched on similar points. None of the students saw themselves as particularly politically active, but agreed that it all depended on whom you know. Several of the interviewees admitted to having both politically active and inactive friends.

Other students believed that a majority of students on campus really are not very active. When asked to explain why this may be, Abby Willman '08.5 said, "I think that a large part of the student body's lack of political activism comes from being in a rural setting, which can sometimes remove students from current events, including political issues and developments," a reference to the notorious "Middlebury Bubble" that insulates the campus.

In general, it would seem that those interviewed believed that for now the political scene would remain loud liberals, mysterious moderates, quiet conservatives and an amalgam of students decidedly indifferent to politics.

## Major issues, 1960s - present

### *Divestment*

The investments that many colleges had in South African companies earned the protests of students in Middlebury, as across the nation, in the mid-'80s. As an expression of solidarity with the blacks oppressed by the apartheid, many students urged the College to take its money out of companies that aided the apartheid. Others argued that by removing the money from South African companies, we would be further harming the poor there, because damaging the economy would help no one. Eventually, the College decided to follow a middle ground, adopting the Sullivan principles, outlining in which companies in South Africa it was OK to invest, and which companies should be avoided.

### *Environmental Causes*

This issue is different from those described above because, as Professor of American Literature Karl Lindholm '67 said, "Here the College has a good record, so it can't be the backstop for the student activism the way it has been for many other issues." The organic garden, the recent 68 degrees campaign and many other initiatives have been well-received by the Trustees over the years.

Obviously, many issues that have been very important to the student body have not been mentioned here. Overall, the activism on campus has fluctuated greatly over the years, sometimes gaining momentum around one issue, but often being spread out over many different issues, diffusing the energy of the students. Although the efforts of student activists are not always high-profile, Lindholm reminds us, "The flame can burn at a somewhat lower heat and still provide important change."

## Leading the Way: Campus Activists

By Rachel Greenhaus
*Staff Writer*

**Tamara Vatnick '07, MOQA**

Co-President of the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance, Vatnick presents a popular viewpoint when she says that Middlebury students are often too busy to find time for extracurricular student organizations. "I think that people use homework as an excuse to remain in our little bubble and not do anything for the outside world," says Vatnick. Proposing a College policy shift to amend this situation, she adds "I think that the College should work on cutting down the workload and making it a curriculum requirement to participate in at least one student activist organization for a semester." Citing recent discussions on campus about minority rights and relations on campus as a step in the right direction, Vatnick nevertheless admits, "Unless there is a huge effort to get people more involved, I don't think that the apathy will change at all."

**Molly Nora '06**
**Students for Life**

The new campus organization Students for Life (SFL) finds a disparity between interest and action in Middlebury Students. Current organization head Nora attributes this pattern in SFL partially to the group's focus on the minority opposed to abortion rights on campus. Although euthanasia and the death-penalty are also of interest to SFL, abortion has become its main issue. Nora admits that this might discourage potential members but asserts the need for this minority voice: "There is sometimes disrespect for the minority view here on campus…It seems like sometimes people don't want to take the time to consider the other side of an issue."

**Lauren Curatolo '06**
**SGA Diversity Committee and FAM**

As President of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM) and Co-Director of the SGA Diversity Committee, Curatolo is highly involved with activism on campus and in constant contact with those looking to make a change in what they see as sexism and racism at Middlebury. Confronting those who accuse students of being apathetic, Curatolo responds "I can say with overwhelming certainty that there are students at Middlebury who embody what it means to be a true activist." Curatolo encourages students to step outside their boundaries and engage conflict. "Without conflict there is no growth," she says.

Curatolo's view is that if students, especially those of the possibly more complacent non-minority groups on campus, spent just a few hours each week involved in activism rather than those less constructive social activities students are wont to engage in, campus activism would move in a much more positive direction.

**Courtney Matson '06.5**
**Student Global AIDS Campaign, Midd8**

Matson is involved in both the Student Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC) and the Midd8, a global affairs activism group. She says that Midd8, a group that is new to campus this year, has a relatively large and active membership. However, SGAC suffers from many of the same issues as other more established activism groups on campus, including a mailing list much larger than its active membership and flagging numbers at meetings. Matson is frustrated by both groups, believing that there are many more students who profess interest in an issue than come to meetings or participate. "I would like to say I think that the Midd population is pretty politically involved, and in theory I think that is true. However I think that that political involvement mostly only takes the form of discussion, rather than something more active... in other words I think it is mostly talk and not a lot of action," she says.

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# Katrina draws students to Gulf

## Volunteers help returning residents rebuild homes, lives

By Julia McKinnon
*Staff Writer*

Courtesy /Sam Morrill

**A group of Middlebury student volunteers take a break at a New Orleans playground to pose for a picture.**

Over spring break, a number of energetic Middlebury volunteer groups headed to New Orleans to see the damage incurred by Hurricane Katrina and join the thousands of college students who chose to spend their vacations rebuilding towns in the Gulf Coast.

Many curious and concerned students from Middlebury set off for New Orleans and Biloxi, Mississippi to see the problem firsthand. Said Caitlin Littlefield '07.5, "It wasn't until I was actually standing in someone's house, decked out in a body suit and respirator and goggles, tearing their lives apart and tossing things on the front lawn to be picked up as garbage that all the destruction became real."

The students returned with unsettling recollections of their first days there. The initial exposure to the disaster areas produced powerful and poignant reactions. "Upon first driving through the devastated areas, I was most shocked at how deserted they were," said Abigail Mitchell '06. "It was like visiting a ghost town. The only movement to catch my eye was the scampering of an underfed cat."

Rachel Durfee '06 explained how her trip to Biloxi helped her to grasp the scope of the devastation. "After an entire day of seeing complete destruction everywhere you look, I started to understand just how much had been damaged and how much there was to rebuild," she said. "The sight that really shocked me was driving by a cemetery which had been entirely wrecked. Tombstones were smashed and up heaved everywhere. It was like the dead had woken up and disturbed everything."

Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans on August 29, 2005. The storm was a Category 4 with winds moving at up to 145 miles per hour. Many of the residents have been accustomed to hurricanes their entire lives and so did not evacuate their homes when the storm headed towards the city. The storm passed over the eastern part of the city, sparing the downtown and hit eastern neighborhoods of New Orleans as well as towns along the Louisiana-Mississippi state line.

More critical than the storm itself, however, were the dual breaches in the massive 17th Street and London Avenue canals. This damage caused rapid and severe flooding that caught residents off guard just when they thought that the worst of the storm had passed. New Orleans residents had no warning about the levees giving way. As Mitchell described, "When cleaning out one of the houses, it felt as if the residents had just disappeared mid-life — the dirty dishes sat waiting in the sink — an outfit laid out neatly on the bed."

Much of the nation was not fully aware of what had happened.

**It was like visiting a ghost town. The only movement to catch my eye was the scampering of an underfed cat.**
**—Abigail Mitchell**

Once the gravity of the levee breaches became publicized, people on a global scale quickly noted the lack of an effective government response to the emergency situation.

Because of the dissatisfaction with Federal aid in the wake of the disaster, a number of grassroots organizations emerged that have rallied volunteers to help with the rebuilding process. More than 30 Middlebury students went down in groups of friends and found volunteer work through organizations like Common Ground. The work accomplished there is generally demolition work. "The demolition work was kind of tough," said Littlefield. "I kept getting all angry at our materialistic tendencies — there was so much stuff just to be dumped in a landfill."

Emily Egginton '06, who has spent more than a month in New Orleans this year also expressed shock upon entering the destroyed houses. "Seeing the interior of a flood damaged house is something I will never forget," she said. "The first thing that hit me was the intense smell of muck and mold and the realization that it could have been my home."

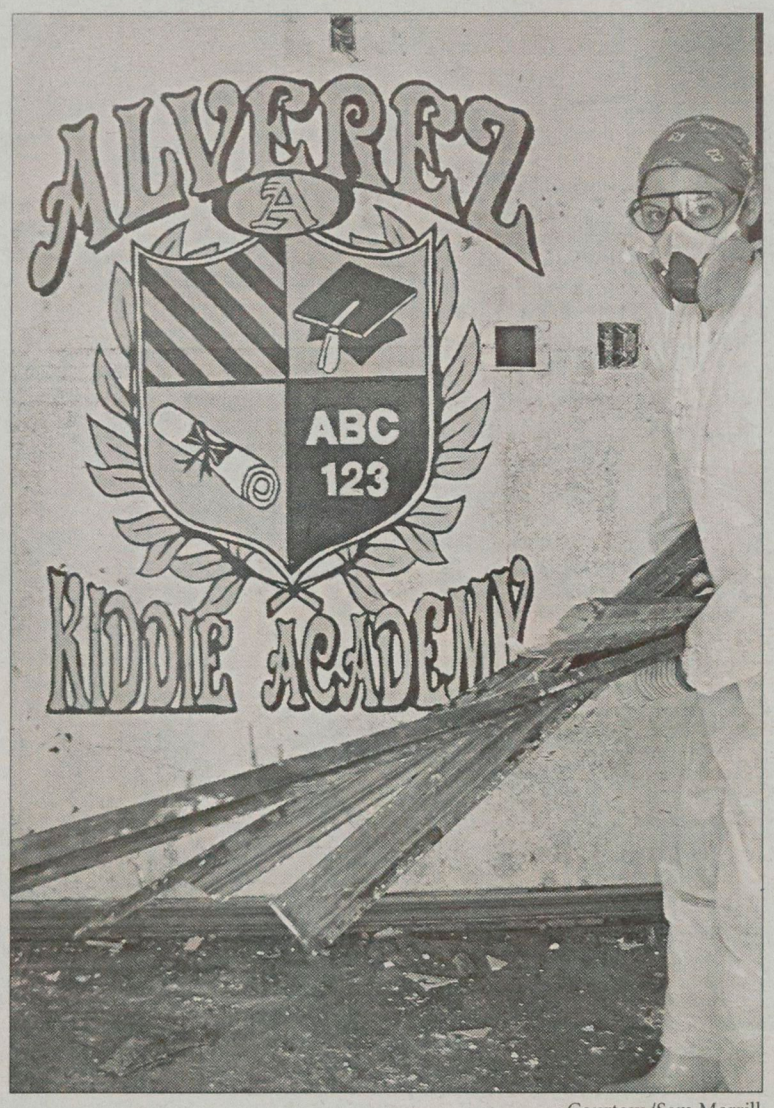
Andrew Haile '07 went down on a religiously-affiliated trip with nine other Middlebury students to aid in the 'Campus Crusade for Christ'. His group also participated in the removal of all the possessions, sheetrock and insulation in damaged houses — the demolition work is commonly referred to as "gutting". Of gutting, Haile says it is "hard, tough work, but rewarding." His group completed three houses in a week. "It was really an awesome experience to be down there physically spreading light and hope to people — I feel like I have an entirely new handle on what it means to be the 'hands and feet of Christ'."

More students traveled to Biloxi where they worked with HandsOn, another volunteer organization. This trip brought students from Dartmouth, Middlebury, Williams and the University of Illinois together into one service expedition.

The Mississippi-Midd crew found the experience highly rewarding. Aside from a sense of social duty, they felt proud of the concrete nature of their accomplishments.

"Rarely does schoolwork provide the rewards of tangible progress each day — it was awesome to head home each night knowing that we had gutted a house, finished a roof, or cleared out all of the mold on the walls," said Elena Kennedy '06. "Even though individual volunteers can only work on a minimal scale, we saw small groups accomplish big things everyday, and that made us feel effective."

The Katrina volunteers said they preferred their service trip by far to a relaxing week in the tropics. "I think that one of the strongest ties between the people volunteering during this spring break was the sense that the Gulf Coast was really the best place that we could all be," said Kennedy. "We approached the trip with the sense that it would be hard work but rewarding; we had no idea that the entire community of volunteers present in Biloxi could make our experience so much fun. I recommend that anyone with a spare week and money for a plane ticket head down there."




Courtesy /Sam Morrill

**Emilia Sibley '06 helps clear debris from an abandoned day care center.**

# 'Habitat' takes Midd to Exmore

By Erin Lackey
*Staff Writer*

A group of 20 Middlebury students participated in a Habitat for Humanity trip this past spring break to Exmore, Va., traveling to two of the poorest counties on the state's Atlantic coastline. The group's volunteer work focused on the rebuilding of local homes, with their work ranging from remodeling to landscaping.

Bryce Loidolt '07 and Ashley Asmus '09 co-led the group of Middlebury students to Virginia, while Assistant Director for Student Organizations and Administration Charlotte Chase helped them organize the trip. The students who volunteered their time paid for themselves and contributed to the donation of 2000 dollars made toward the purchase of supplies used in the project.

Courtesy/ Ben de Leiris

**Benjamin Martin '08.5 assists a local volunteer prepare the supplies needed to rebuild houses in Exmore, Va.**

The group's initiative was to help the people living in the area of Exmore, Va. by rebuilding houses. Many of the city's residents do not have access to running water, and many people live in trailer year round. Bryce Loidolt '07 discussed his experience: "We had a lot of contact with homeowners who were already living in Habitat for Humanity built homes in the area, as well as with future homeowners whose houses we were working on. They took a lot of pride in their homes which encouraged us to take more pride in our work. We worked side by side with homeowners," he said.

The students who attended the trip formed a deep bond with the members of the Exmore community and were very enthusiastic about helping out. The inspiration for the work that they accomplished came from the people they worked with.

Asmus described her experience: "Although this might not sound like much, I think it ended up helping the 'regulars' of the Eastern Shore volunteer crew a lot. Most, if not all, of the Habitat volunteers in ESVA are retired people, and usually a crew of five people working twice a week is all they can count on. My hope is that we gave the Exmore Habitat volunteers a leg up for the work they'll be doing in the spring and summer." Since so many individuals who normally work on these projects are older, having a group of college students invigorated their spirit.

Throughout the project, the Middlebury students focused on the completion of two houses in the area. Because so much construction had been previously completed o the houses, the students split up into several groups. One team focused on construction on the inside, working on hanging doors, placing the trim around the houses and putting up windowsills. A second team worked outdoors on the landscaping around the house. They added shrubs and planted trees to give the outside a more complete look. A third group was created to clean the ESVA's warehouse so that it could be used as a staging area in the future.

The project greatly impacted the students who took part in it as well as the residents of the area. Asmus discussed her feelings about the trip, saying, "As for ourselves, I think we all learned not only a few new construction skills, but also a lot about working in a group." Asmus said that meeting people outside of the campus community and learning about an area of the country that was unfamiliar to her were her favorite parts of the trip. "I don't think I've ever made that many good friends that quickly in my life," commented Asmus. "I definitely plan to go on this Habitat trip to an urban area next year. It's an exciting, worthwhile and constructive use of time." The Habitat for Humanity volunteers saw the trip as a great success, and hope to continue it for years to come.

By Lynne Zummo

Historically, Middlebury's weeklong vacations have given me the chance to pack up my climbing gear and fly west or drive south on the quest for adventure. One year it was Kentucky for a few precious days of dry weather salvation; another it was southern California. This past week found me in McCardell Bicentennial Hall, writing my thesis and reading, among other things, John McPhee's Encounters with the Archdruid, a glimpse into the life and enemies of David Brower.

Brower, the first executive director of the Sierra Club and founder of Friends of the Earth, lived with a passion for wilderness that won him equal amounts of love and hate throughout the past few decades of environmental action. Where conservationists praised the man, industry cursed him. Were it not for Brower's fervor, Dinosaur National Monument, parts of the Grand Canyon, and pieces of the Yukon might be underwater today, dammed by concrete. Fewer national parks would dot the map and the National Wilderness Preservation System could have faltered at the start. Wild America might not be so wild, and it would surely not be so widespread.

McPhee's book served as a timely reminder of the environmentalism that surged in the decades preceding ours. The degree to which Brower and his contemporaries impacted the state of our lands is undeniable. While we owe a great deal to those early crusaders, however, much work lies ahead. The youngest generation of environmentalists is quickly approaching a new challenge in land conservation: although we treasure our public parks, refuges, wilderness areas and monuments, the privately owned forests that cover nearly 20% of our nation's land are increasingly facing the threat of development.

A recent study by the U.S. Forest Service predicted that more than 44 million acres of private forestland would be sold within the next 25 years. As timber companies and paper manufacturers find larger profits in real estate development than in traditional manufacture and sales, pieces of essentially pristine forest could vanish, replaced by condominiums and strip malls. Large tracts of habitat could become fragmented, endangering populations of larger mammals and further decaying our wealth of biodiversity.

In an effort to combat the dissolution of America's forests, conservation groups across the country are attempting to buy these private lands. Groups, such as the Conservation Fund, have succeeded in purchasing pieces of the most ecologically sensitive land in some areas. However, skyrocketing real estate prices render this means of conservation untenable in the long tern. It is in our generation's interest to support these land conservation efforts in whatever ways we can.

# World Briefs

By Derek Schlickeisen

### French job protests

More than a million protesters – mostly students – participated yesterday in sometimes violent protests against new youth employment laws across France. The laws in question would allow employers incorporated in France to terminate employees under the age of 26 without explanation anytime during their first two years of work. Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin claims the reforms will keep France competitive in the world market while critics say the new policy will erode the nation's economic safety net. International observers have called the protests "a real test of... de Villepin's resolve" on the issue.

***—BBC, Paris***

### Israeli elections

Israeli Interim Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Tuesday that his Kadima party was projected to win an estimated 29 to 32 seats in that country's 120-member parliament. Olmert said his party's election victory represented an affirmative referendum on his proposal to sacrifice parts of the West Bank and impose a border between his country and Palestine if the peace process remains stalled. As part of Olmert's plan, "isolated settlements" in the Israeli-occupied West Bank will be abandoned and larger sections of territory fortified by 2010.

***–Reuters, Jerusalem***

### Missing war criminal

Former Liberian President Charles Taylor, wanted for war crimes by a court in Sierra Leone, disappeared Tuesday from a Nigerian villa days before he was to be delivered for trial. Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo ordered the arrest of his guards, saying, "We will get to the bottom of it." Taylor, in exile since 2003, was once jailed in the United States for embezzling $900,000 from the Liberian government but escaped with four other convicts from a Massachusetts prison in 1985 after serving only one year. In 1989 he returned to Liberia and launched the revolt that overthrew the existing dictatorship and led to his presidency. Taylor's is descended from the freed U.S. slaves who established the nation of Liberia in the late 1800s.

***—CNN, Lagos, Nigeria***

### Iraq kidnappings

Twenty-one bodies were found and 35 individuals reported kidnapped in Baghdad Tuesday, according to U.S. authorities. In four separate incidents, gunmen dressed as Iraqi police commandos snatched customers and employees from business establishments across the city. General Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the kidnappings are especially worrisome because it is not known whether they were the work of insurgents or organized kidnapping rings.

***-CNN, Baghdad***

# WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

| | |
|---|---|
| People who read and love Winners & Losers | People who write letters to the Editor about W&L |
| Well, obviously that means you since you're reading this right now. How cool are you for making it into Winners & Losers this week?!? Hey, mom, look! | Are you getting really mad at us yet? If not, there's always next week! |
| Midd Men and Women's Hockey | Playing hockey at any other school |
| Literally winners. Again. And again. And again. | Kind of self-explanatory... |
| Yellow bikes | Yellow snow |
| Getting home at 3 a.m. on Friday night is going to be so much more fun again. | Right, so there wasn't much snow to be yellow this year. But if there was, it would have been a loser. |

BY MATT KUNZWEILER

I ended up in the Bahamas for spring break. And it was everything I could've hoped for: more high-fiving than an ADP party, more sunburns than the early days of British colonialism. Everybody (and I know I'm prone to hyperbole, but seriously — everybody on Spring Break) was wearing Polo shirts, Polo shorts and sandals. Although this branded homogenization was a pastel parody of itself, it raised a question: Do people who wear only Polo complement each other's clothes? Because it would sound like this:

"I like your shirt."

"Yeah, I know. There were like four colors to choose from, but I think I made the right call."

"Especially by coordinating it with those periwinkle shorts. Which are dashing."

But what do these Polo-clad children say when drinking on a beach in the Caribbean? I actually heard one frat boy shout: "Raise the roof!" His sunburned companion — an avid weightlifter, and judging by the following comment, an avid degenerate — responded, "Raise the roofie!"

As they high-fived, I frowned and hid my margarita beneath my beach recliner— just because, in the eyes of a sun-drunk, mohito-drunk and testosterone-drunk frat boy, I, with my longish locks, might somehow appear female. Not that I even look like a girl — or, by any stretch of the imagination, an attractive girl — but I was reading a novel on the beach, and only chicks do that, right? Anyway, the beer goggles on these frat boys were so foggy and Coke-bottled that I assumed these "brothers" capable of drugging and violating anything they could get their sandy hands on. I'd already seen one violate a coconut… Believe the stereotype: state school frat boys are savages.

Later, at the Isle of Capri Casino (which sounds more like a Wham! song than an actual casino) I was cashing out a triple-7 jackpot on the 25¢ slot machines, the metal trays clanging obscenely with the barrage of falling quarters. As I scooped the winnings into my plastic cup (I'd never seen $100 in quarters before), I fervently shouted to the room (and two hundred hidden cameras): "These are the loosest slots in the Caribbean!"

As soon as I made this declaration, I noticed the raise-the-roofie brothers staring at me drop-jawed from their stools at a nearby poker table, their Polo-clad Greek-system compatriots following suit. "Slots," I repeated, this time with considerably more emphasis on the "o". "These must be the loosest slot machines in the Bahamas."

Disappointedly, they turned back to their game of Texas Hold 'em in hopes of emulating their goateed heroes of ESPN poker —you know, those fat dudes who probably suck at everything besides poker. But there was one especially drunk kid who didn't turn back to the table. It was the brother who'd spoken earlier of "raising the roofie." Now he was leering at me with corkscrewed eyes and snarled lips. Was he looking at my beautiful shoulder-length locks? Had he drunk enough to think that anyone with longish hair qualified as a desirable spring-breaking female? Would Yanni or Kevin Sorbo receive the same treatment?

But in order to change my mass of quarters into bills, I had to I walk by the Texas Hold 'em table. I did so hastily— but as I passed, the brother leaned from his stool, meaty arm extended, his thumb and index finger pinched together —and tried to roofie my giant cup of quarters…

# 'Alta Gracia' visit raises spirits

By Caroline Stauffer
*Editor in Chief*

A bond exists between Middlebury College and the Dominican Republic — and it's not merely the dozens of students who flock to the island nation's beaches each vacation period.

Travelers who take the time to explore the island outside of the usual tourist destinations may notice a lingering national deference to three of the still-developing nation's national heroines, the Mirabal sisters. The sisters — three of whom were tragically murdered in 1960 during the Rafael Trujillo dictatorship — are the subject of "In the Time of the Butterflies," the best-selling novel by Dominican native and Middlebury College Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez '71.

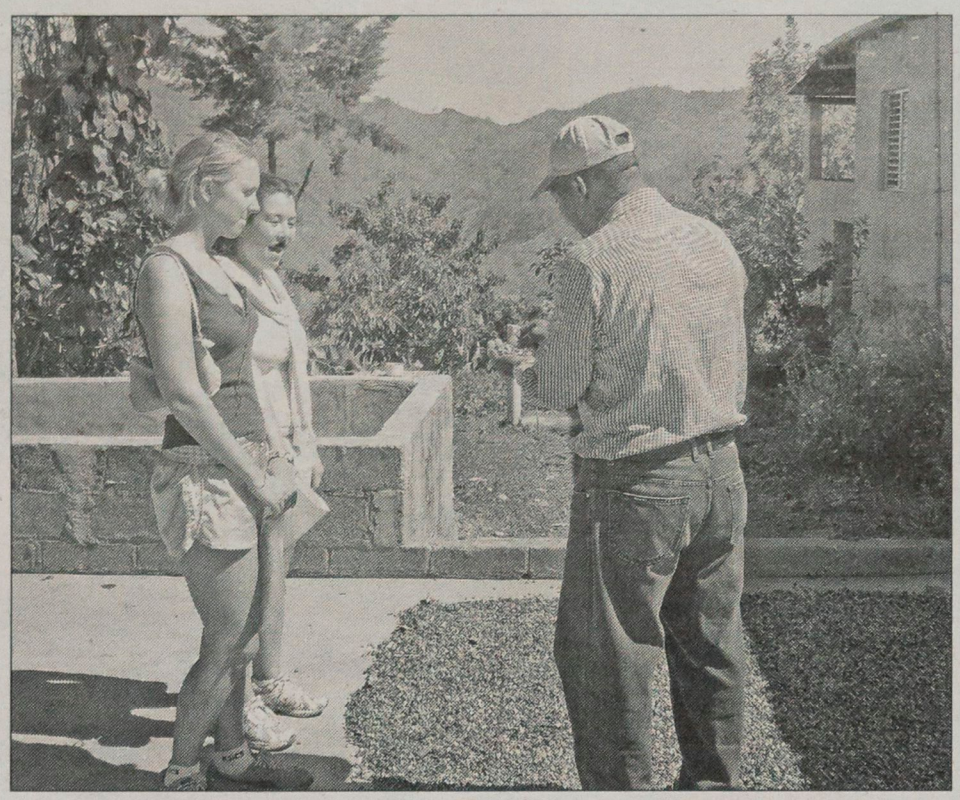
Middlebury's link to the DR in fact stems from Alvarez and husband Bill Eichner's ownership of an organic coffee farm for the past 10 years: Finca Alta Gracia.

The core values that seem to be intrinsic to Alta Gracia are analogous to those possessed by many in Vermont's Champlain Valley and at the College — sustainable and environmentally sound agriculture, third world development and a commitment to local communities and improving literacy. Many students have visited the farm over the years, whether completing J-Term projects or doing research for Middlebury's own organic garden. College graduates have served as volunteer teachers in the school adjacent to the farm.

Just under two years ago, struggling to run the farm from afar and holding full time jobs in the states, Alvarez and Eichner turned the farm's operation over to the national Instituto Dominican de Investigaciones Agropecuarias y Forestales (IDIAF). Though they still own the property, Alvarez now describes their roles with the farm as advisory. The day-to-day management is handled by people who are embedded in the community, such as Filomeno Jiménez, who will enthusiastically talk for hours about developments in organic farming with visitors, and Alvarez thinks that is just the way it should be.

Alvarez and Eichner have turned over other aspects of the Alta Gracia project as well.

The coffee produced at Alta Gracia is sold in the United States by the Vermont Coffee company, which is committed to selling only coffee that guarantees fair wages for producers. When Paul Ralston, owner of the Vermont Coffee Company, first met Alvarez and Eichner, the pair was actually bringing back Alta Gracia coffee beans to the United States in duffel bags, trying to find a roaster that shared their philosophy of fair trade.



Caroline Stauffer

**Kim Hults and Joyce Driscoll, both '06, look on as Filomeno Jiménez explains techniques in organic coffee farming at Finca Alta Gracia in the Dominican Republic last week. Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez and her husband Bill Eichner have owned the farm for 10 years.**

Today, the Vermont Coffee Company sells Alta Gracia coffee and a second brew that blends Alta Gracia with a Sumatran and Costa Rican coffee known as Las Mariposas — another reference to the Mirabal sisters.

The push to serve fair trade coffee in Middlebury College dining halls several years ago did not result in the College purchasing Vermont Coffee Company coffee, a disappointment to Alvarez, though several varieties of coffee served are labeled fair trade.

Alvarez is still concerned with the ability of big coffee corporations to drive down the price of coffee, hurting small local farmers such as those that surround Finca Alta Gracia in the DR. "A lot of these farmers don't even read and write — they have no way to access first world markets to get fair trade, fair wage, fair return," she said.

Alta Gracia has therefore looked to other sources of income in order to continue its projects when the price of coffee is down. One such source is "ecotourism." Sarah DeCandio voluntarily coordinates visits to the farm from Rutland, and many of the farm's visitors are Vermonters.

IDIAF has formed a partnership with the University in Jarabacoa, enabling Dominican students majoring in agriculture or studying ecotourism to complete internships at Alta Gracia. Visitors to the farm enjoy traditional Dominican meals with the Interns and workers. The current interns do not speak any English and they estimate that less than five percent of the farm's visitors speak Spanish, often making communication difficult, but perhaps adding to the comfortably rustic experience.

A visit to Alta Gracia requires a drive Southeast of Santiago, the DR's second largest city, a climb though a mountainous region that includes the highest peak in the Caribbean — sure to test any Dominican-issued rental car — to the city of Jarabacoa, a name originating from the Taino Indians who occupied the island prior to the arrival of the Spanish. The final stretch to the farm runs far out of town along a narrow mountain ridge featuring breathtaking scenery.

Upon arriving at the farm, visitors first notice the coffee beans drying in the sun in the driveway. The seemingly primitive setup actually makes up one of the many innovative experiments IDIAF is conducting in hopes of finding methods to improve organic farming with limited technology.

"The DR had been a plantation economy for so long — it takes generations to change to more sustainable system of agriculture," Alvarez said.

The 1,400-acre farm produces 25 varietals of coffee. Approximately 70 percent of the coffee beans produced are deemed good enough to be sold in first world markets.

In walking around the farm, one quickly comes to realize that coffee is not all Alta Gracia is about. Just up the road from the main building is a tiny library where volunteers regularly teach. The altruistic spirit of Alta Gracia seems to have transcended to the neighboring community, where a Spanish expatriate woman runs a ceramics studio and helps local women make traditional Taino pottery to sell.

Alvarez admitted that she cannot claim to have written her latest novel "Saving the World" at the farm. In fact, she has done very little writing there at all, though she visits four or five times each year. "There is too much work to do on the farm to be able to enjoy the luxury of writing," she said. "That said, it feeds my soul — not to mention it assuages some of the guilt and burden I feel from being one of those lucky first world people who lives so well compared to the rest of our human family."

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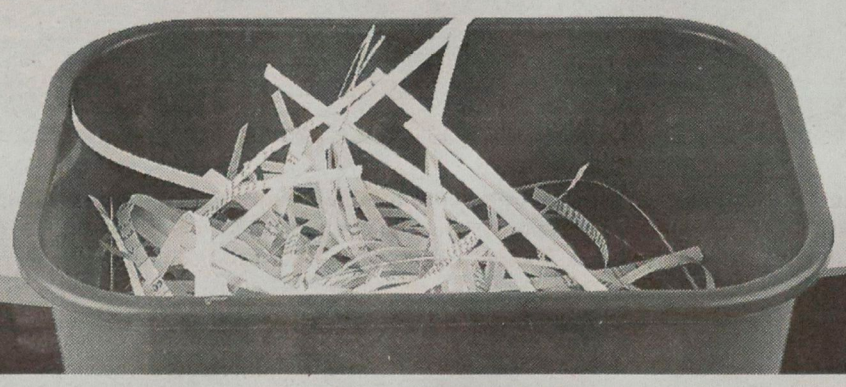

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**SPOTLIGHT ON JULIA ALVAREZ**
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WALLACES PROVES LOBSTERS ARE NO SMALL RABBLING MATTER

# Nomad ensemble steps in with küü

By Melissa Marshall
*Staff Writer*

Vlad Lodoaba

**Kenjekul Kubatova sings with a graceful, resounding voice that fills the Center for the Arts Concert Hall to demonstrate the powerful vocals in Kyrgyz nomadic music.**

Vlad Lodoaba

**Members of the Tengir-too perform on the choor, the komuz and the kyl kiak, three instruments that are often used in Kyrgyz nomadic performances.**

In our culture, where a "good" song is seen as something with a distinguishable refrain, it was refreshing to see the Middlebury College Center for the Arts Concert Hall reasonably full on a Monday night with highly entertained spectators. The Tengir-Too Ensemble, whose musical stylings are anything but conventional to our community, were definitely an act that had to be seen as well as heard. The group, described as "a new ensemble that plays old music," derives its name from the mountain range that links Kyrgyzstan and China, but the ensemble is better known by its Chinese name, Tien Shan, which means "celestial mountains." Their brand of music is rooted in nomadic perception and rings with their understanding of the elemental energies of wind, water and echo, and legendary undertones. It was apparent in the mood that reverberating in the concert hall that Kyrgyz music is also infused with a deep sense of spirituality. Many people of this culture venerate *mazars* — sites of spiritual power — and the significance linked to these places has served as vital sources of inspiration to the Kyrgyz performers. This was especially seen in Tengir-Too's first piece, an excerpt from the *Manas* epic, which described the memorial celebration for a fallen hero. However, the ensemble's instrumentation was perhaps the most affective aspect of the performance.

Instrumental genres play a substantial part in Kyrgyz music. Even though it is unlikely that any of the audience members could understand the language of the singers, the instruments did a powerful job of conveying the stories and showing emotions and moods, such as the feeling of loss in "Chong Kerbez," which recounted a man's exile to Siberia under czarist rule. The instruments that induced such complex feelings included wooden and metal jew's harps, *komuz* (a three-stringed lute), *sybyzgy* (a side-blown flute), *choor* (an end-blown flute) and a *chopo choor* (a potato-shaped ceramic wind instrument known as an ocarina).

Nurlanbek Nyshanov, the group's artistic director, described their work and their use of instrumentation, saying "I want to uncover the whole timbral palette of Kyrgyz traditional instruments. So many nuances, so many colors! The best way to hear and 'see' them is when they come together in an ensemble, where they can reveal themselves more completely." This sense of cohesiveness and the original arrangement of instruments and sounds made for a supremely enjoyable evening.

Students were impressed with the performance – it was something very different from what is usually performed on campus. "I dig on stylistic flourish," said Jeremy Osbourn '06.5, who appreciated the inventive composition of the different pieces. Avery Finch '09.5 was happy to see something new. "I thought that it was really cool that they came here," he said. "It was nothing like I've ever seen before, in an insanely good way."

## Kyrgyz nomadic music:
### *Taking the soundscape from the landscape*

*Legend has it that one khan, or ruler, ordained that any bearer of bad news should have his head cut off. One day, this khan's most beloved horse died, but no one had the courage to convey this news to him. Finally, a musician came and, through the sad sound of his performance, relayed the unfortunate message to the khan, who immediately understood what had happened. Thus, all heads were spared.*

In Kyrgyzstan, instrumental music without words is called *küü*. Evidently, one can say a lot through music, but for these Kyrgyz nomadic performers especially, their music today says a whole lot about them. In the eyes of these migrating pastoralists, whose lives and culture were dramatically influenced by Soviet collectivization, it has become an expression of their historical national identity.

Music is often a highly individual enterprise for Kyrgyz nomads, who play or sing while alone in the field or at home during the day. What they create on their own is very different from the music of their sedentary counterparts. Kyrgyz vocalists are distinguished in their ability to sing long, draw-out notes in one breath.

Epic recititation, the telling of heroic tales, is an important part of this art form. The most famous of Kyrgyz epics is *Manas*, a poem which, at 150,000 lines, is 20 times longer than Homer's *Odyssey*. It is performed over a 7-month period by a *manaschi*, a shaman reciter who has memorized the entire work. Beginning in November, when the days begin to shorten, and ending in May, when summer returns, the *manaschi* performs a part of it everyday.

Kyrgyz nomadic musicians take competitions as chances to display their skill, and all take to using flamboyant, exaggerated gestures to show off the agility of their fingers and mastery over their instruments. Often, the movement accompanying the music is important for conveying what is being said instrumentally.

— Joyce Man

# Spotlight on...Julia Alvarez

Acclaimed Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez '71 talks about her new novel "Saving the World." Alvarez has published many a celebrated novel, such as "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents" and "A Cafecito Story" as well as several collections of poetry and has garnered numerous awards including the Robert Frost Poetry fellowship from Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, 1986; the Third Woman Press Award, first prize in narrative, 1986; and a grant from National Endowment for the Arts, 1987-88.

***The Middlebury Campus:* How did you come across these 22 orphaned boys who were the subject of "Saving the World?"**

Courtesy/Cameron Davidson

**Julia Alvarez:** I was doing research for my last novel, "In The Name of Shalome." I was studying the history of the island of Hispaniola, and [I found a footnote that] said that, in the midst of war the French in the Eastern half fighting off the Haitians that had declared independence, and the Spanish island had been occupied by the French; it was just a mess. There was a little note that said smallpox had broken out, and it had been too bad that the smallpox expedition that was going around the world with the vaccine carried by orphaned boys had not been able to make a stop at the island, and I thought, *what's this?* I have a friend who's a medical historian, and I asked him about it, and he had no idea. So I went to the Armstrong library and took out every book there on smallpox and, in a couple of them, there was a mention about the Royal Expedition — not too many details. It happened that I happened on this topic right as I was beginning to ride the great wave of Google, and I Googled it in Spanish, and by God, there was a Web site on it in Valencia, where he was born, and the bicentennial of the expedition was going to be in 2003. The port city from which they sent out was having its big exhibition in commemoration. My husband and I had planned to go on a trip — we had pretty much settled that it was going to be Italy, but I said, 'honey, we're going to Spain.' I guess that's what happens when you're married to a writer! 'Honey, we're going to Spain, I've got a story I can't let go of.' You think you're going to hit your novel ideas, this great illumination, and then sometimes this little thing catches the corner of your eye, and those are the things that I think are important to follow. If you're doing it just to see what the market is, or to see what sells, or what you think your next book should be or what your readers think your next book should be, it'll fail. You've got to follow those things that really grab you or haunt you. That's how it started.

***TC:* What is the ability of literature and art to raise awareness of social issues in today's American climate?**

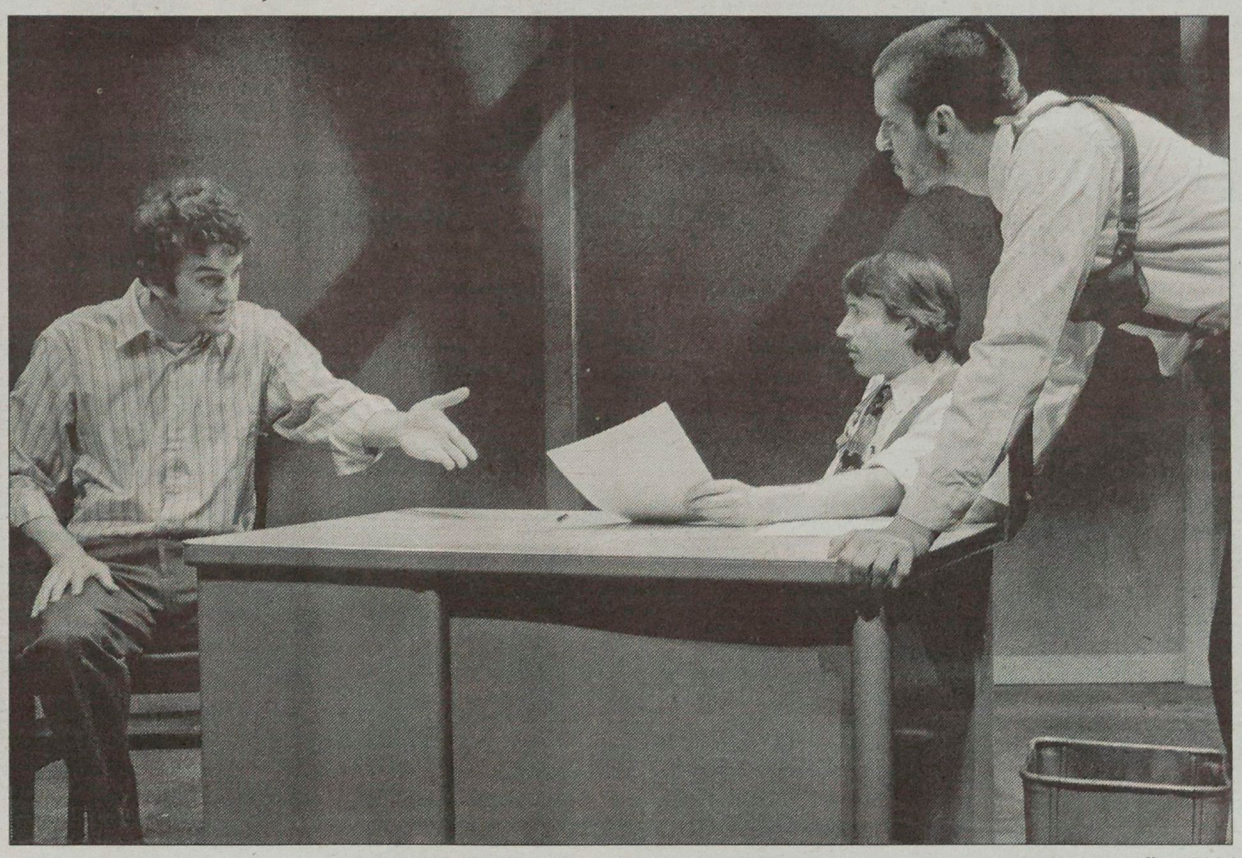
**JA:** That's such a big and complex question, because the way we experience history as human beings alive to a contemporary scene is almost like fiction. We have a specific lens and we have a narrative that threads events together — those are all the strategies of a fiction writer. In a way, it's like we experience history as a story, our story. We have a particular vision into what's happening during our times from our point of view and as the character we are and in a family and framework and neighborhood, and that's setting, point of view — all these strategies of fiction. None of us can say that what we're experiencing now is the truth — well, some people in the White House can say that — a whole complex dimension of what's it like to be alive in this world. A lot of times we forget that we're all fiction writers. When you meet someone, you fall in love with someone, you tell them the story of your lives. And even the story you tell is different than the story, say, a sibling would tell, a parent tells. For some reason we're these creatures that need narrative in order to put together the events of our lives into something that's coherent and cohesive that makes meaning and sense to us...a lot of times I think when we get depressed, it's when all of that falls apart, we're lost, nothing makes any sense. My sister who works with refugees in Boston, many of whom who have left Latin American countries where there were mass killings or they saw their families executed or some horrible thing, in counseling them she knows they're healing when they can tell the story of what happened to them, when they can put it together as a narrative. I think fiction and nonfiction are not that far apart. Even when I was doing the research for "In The Time of the Butterflies" and I went around talking to different people on the island who had lived in the time of the dictatorship, one person would tell you this story and another person would tell you another story, a different take on things. When we didn't have videos of Kennedy being shot, those documentation capacities, a lot of it is point of view, interpretation, the stories that get passed down. Even now, when we have all these supposedly accurate means of documentation — we have this new word *spin*, where we can take it and make it this or that. We're creatures that are constantly creating narratives from our experience. In a sense, our experience is already fiction, and I'm not saying that in terms of undermining it — I'm saying it's an important, and maybe even truer way of knowing things, because it means integrating things with your heart and mind and senses, as opposed to just straight, flat documentation, which is impossible I think already.

***TC:* Oh, wow. That's a beautiful way to see it.**

**JA:** Good luck putting that into a two-inch column...I don't even remember the question now!

— Bri Cavallaro

## THE SECRET PROJECT REVEALS ITSELF



Albert Bitici

**Gesturing emphatically in a heated scene,** Lucas Kavner '06.5 takes the stage alongside Macleod Andrews '07.5 and Daniel diTomasso '06. The play is the collaborative senior project of Kavner, diTomasso and Courtney Swanda '06 and debuts tonight at 8 p.m. in Hepburn Zoo.

## WRMC 91.1 FM
## *On Rotation*

BY BENJAMIN GOLZE

I feel horrible. The only thing keeping me awake right now is a cup of coffee I had with lunch. I have that awful feeling of being held above the brink of sweet, sweet sleep by a necessary chemical high. This is because I just arrived back at school from a red-eye flight from San Francisco. Of course I could have planned ahead and written this any number of times over break, but that would have seriously impeded my schedule of watching the first season of "Lost." Plus, the mediocre writing that commonly fills this space needs some sort of inspiration, the sort of inspiration that I couldn't get from dreary Bay Area weather and sleeping in.

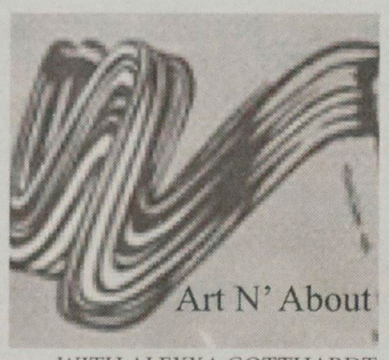
I did, however, receive said inspiration in the moments before passing out shortly after the plane took off last night/early this morning. As with most times when I try to sleep on a plane, train, or automobile, I slipped on my headphones and queued up some of my favorite sleeping music. Then it hit me: Hey, I'll write about my sleepy music. There are a number of artists that I can always fall back on in these situations, and I even have a "Sleepy" playlist that I generally put on before going to bed. Then I fell asleep. I don't even know if I got past the first song.

That is not to say that the music to which I fall asleep is boring. It just has that feel that's relaxing, like one of those sleep machines that plays a babbling brook, croaking frogs, or recordings of bowling tournaments. Take the band I used last night, for example. The Album Leaf play a very soothing, synth and guitar-heavy instrumental rock. I think they have a couple of albums out, but the opener to "One Day I'll Be on Time" will knock even a heavyweight out cold. The song, called "Gust of..." features simple guitar lines plucking their way over a single bass note. It's perfectly titled, sounding like a gust of something, wind probably, but by the time you get to that thought you're in a vegetative state.

Most of the best sleepy music tends to be instrumental. My personal favorite is an album by Explosions in the Sky, a Texas instrumental rock group that is well known for their explosive live shows, no pun intended. And most of their albums are too, especially their early ones, which infuse heavy-metal sensibilities into long, sprawling instrumentals. The original soundtrack to the film "Friday Nigh Lights," written almost exclusively by Explosions in the Sky, takes a much different tack. The film is set in Odessa, in the flat expanses of western Texas, and the barren songs from the film evoke the emptiness of that landscape with single, suspended guitar parts. A shorter version of their song "Your Hand in Mind" appears with added strings, and is as sweet as it is soothing. This album became my sleeping music to drown out the racket on the trains and buses in China.

But not all sleepy music needs to be instrumental. The only requirement is the voice needs to be as soft as the music. Nobody's going to fall asleep to Isaac Brock's (of Modest Mouse) voice. My personal favorite in this category is Iron & Wine's first album "The Creek Drank the Cradle." The simple, sweet folk music is perfect for sitting out on the porch on a summer afternoon, and if you turn it up real, real loud, it will drown out the annoying ladies chatting next you with blowing out your eardrums. His cover of the Postal Service's "Such Great Heights" is another perfect example of vocals that will carry you off to dream land.

Interestingly, many of these sleepy songs also do fairly well at making the chicks swoon, or so I hear. Let's say, hypothetically, that I had a "romantic" playlist. I'd probably stick most of these songs there too. Particularly the aforementioned "Your Hand in Mind," or, say, Clapton's "Wonderful Tonight." The implications of this are deep, and beyond simple exposition in a music column. And so I challenge you, faithful reader, to ponder this topic yourself, the next time you drift off to sleep on a long flight, listening to your iPod.




WITH ALEXXA GOTTHARDT

New York's got class. LA's got hype. Chicago's got the blues. And Miami has…what? Sun shining upon endless stretches of sand, silicone and sex. Streets where artifice and excess reign; where the rich and the poor are not just blocks, but worlds apart; and where sunglasses, sweet rides and sneakers are the latest status symbols. Appealing? Maybe not. Glamorous? Perhaps. Intriguing, arresting and inspiring? Definitely. Miami is a complex world chock full of undeniable cultural diversity and vibrancy — a vibrancy that is building (designer shoe upon florescent thong upon techno beat upon Spanish slang) the art world's newest, hottest hub. Miami's got art.

In the past few years, Miami has quickly become the fawned-over favorite of a very picky, often pretentious art world. Even the globe's most high-powered, hip, utterly loaded collectors, gallerists and curators are devoting massive portions of their sleek black-leather calendars to soak in the Miami rays. Rays that, to these vacationers, don't come from the sun, but from the glittering panoply of art fairs, alternative spaces, galleries and innovative artists that are rising from the city's concrete cracks.

But why, when, and how did Miami become the breeding ground for the creation, collection and exchange of art that it is today? Answer: Art Basel Miami Beach (ABMB). This offshoot of the mother of all art fairs, Art Basel (Switzerland), originated in 2002 and has since become more successful, influential and outrageous by the year. Mixing top galleries from New York, Paris and London with new, less-conspicuous names, ABMB stands apart from its successor in its firm commitment to the exposure of next-to-unknown artists and galleries. While much of the art world considers this a risky move, it's also what attracts them and keeps them coming back year after innovative year.

After the dawn of ABMB, Miami broke out. Already a wild, open and experimental city — due in large part to its cultural diversity and pleasure-driven lifestyle — Miami was ready for more art, more excitement. Not only did ABMB bring the world to Miami, it also revealed the city's very own burgeoning art scene, a treasure of budding talent and generous, enthusiastic collectors.

Now, other art fairs have popped up all over the city — Pulse Miami, Aqua Art, NADA and Arteaméricas, to name a few. Museums are being enhanced, overhauled and added. Collectors such as the Rubell Family, Ella Cisneros, Craig Robins and Debra and Dennis Scholl have opened their collections to the public and are funding arts efforts across the city. Galleries are revitalizing and rendering very posh Miami's Wynwood Art District — à la New York's Soho or Chelsea. And, perhaps most importantly, a strong group of artists, growing all the time, is settling and working in Miami. Inspired by their hometown's diversity and consequent looseness and vibrancy, the likes of Hernan Bas, Naomi Fisher, Mark Handforth and Dara Friedman are creating art that is shocking and pleasing art-snobs, aesthetes and thrill-seekers alike.

So, now high art joins the ranks of sultry salsa grooves, tacky tourist décor, microscopic bikinis, platinum rims and an eternally sunny South Beach to inspire artists and collectors everywhere and create the globe's newest, freshest creative bazaar. Art world, meet Miami.

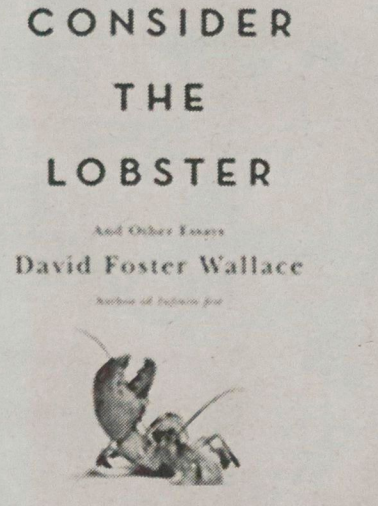
# Wallace gives lobsters their due

By Gabe Broughton
*Staff Writer*

The subjects of David Foster Wallace's new book of essays, "Consider the Lobster," include the porn industry, John Updike's undying narcissism and the general awfulness of "Towards the End of Time," Franz Kafka's under-appreciated "funniness," the "seamy underbelly of U.S. lexicography," reactions to Sept. 11 in the Bloomington, Il., home of an elderly woman, Tracy Austin's unfortunate autobiography, the possibility that John McCain is a real leader, the Maine Lobster Festival and its unavoidable moral implications, Joseph Frank's biographical work on Fyodor Dostoevsky and the lessons the revered Russian writer has to offer the contemporary novelist and, finally, the beguiling world of contemporary, conservative talk radio.

Yes, it is a mouth full, and reading the book is no easier. Much has been made of Wallace's love-hate relationship with his readership. This has been true since before his incendiary 1996 "Infinite Jest." Since then, he has published a book of essays, two short story collections and a pop-math book on the history of infinity. Certainly Wallace is a restless intellect, and while his subjects are wildly varied, his voice, for all its academic authority and syntactic gymnastics, holds a funny intimacy.

One possible explanation for this intimacy is the strain Wallace feels between his obviously upper-class intellectual upbringing — he attended Amherst and Harvard — and his more democratic leanings. In "Authority and American Usage," he ironically begins a sentence, "We regular citizens." This strain may also help to explain why a critically-acclaimed writer would write for *Gourmet* magazine, where the title essay was originally published, only to delve into the ethical difficulties of boiling alive thousands of lobsters for the "gustatory pleasure" of a paying mass of festival-goers. I do not mean to imply this is a sort of posturing on the part of Wallace. As he ponders the morality of boiling liveing things, he admits that he has not "succeeded in working out any sort of personal ethical system in which the belief [that it is fine to eat these brutally-killed




foods]is truly defensible instead of just selfishly convenient." He ends this particular essay wondering what exactly is meant by the title of the publication, *The Magazine of Good Living*, for which he is working.

This kind of passionate interrogation of the modern human condition is, according to Wallace, noticeably absent from most contemporary fiction. It has to do with something like guts, and in "Joseph Frank's Dostoevsky," Wallace explains why Dostoevsky had it. "The big thing that makes Dostoevsky invaluable for American readers and writers is that he appears to possess degrees of passion, conviction and engagement with deep moral issues that we — here today — cannot or do not permit ourselves."

Wallace's desire for directness, and even dishonesty, extends beyond literature. His main explanation for the staggeringly low voter turnouts in recent political elections is, quite simply, bullshit. It hurts to be lied to. And to be lied to over and over, systematically, produces apathy. This is not a new subject for Wallace. An excerpt from "A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again": "... advertisement that pretends to be art is, at absolute best, like somebody who smiles warmly at you only because he wants something from you."

Wallace's quest for the genuine, for the real thing, attracts him to John McCain. He is so impressed with McCain's refusal of release from prison in Vietnam in favor of other prisoners that despite McCain's sometimes "scary" politics, Wallace can't seem to take his eyes off him. The attraction is not exactly political – Wallace never planned to vote for him. He is more interested in whether the real McCain, who Wallace believes exists above the campaign, can remain intact under strain of the American political machine. To quote another contemporary novelist, "you've got to pay such fierce attention." Wallace does.

His prose is dense, circuitous, often beautiful. But perhaps most importantly, in contemporary America, where the pornography industry grosses a greater profit than mainstream cinema, where every athletic prodigy is allowed a ghost-written autobiography, where thousands of citizens hoard like animals around the world's biggest lobster cooker each year in Maine, David Foster Wallace is a painfully funny writer.

# Editors' A&E picks
## for the week of 3/30 - 4/5

**30**

SENIOR WORK OF DITOMASSO, KAVNER AND SWANDA
Thursday at 8 p.m., Friday at 7:30 and 11 p.m. and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Hepburn Zoo
Lucas Kavner '06.5, Daniel DiTomasso '06 and Courtney Swanda '06 reveal their senior project on Friday and Saturday. Though the performance has been well advertised, the producers have been rather quiet about its content. It is certainly worth a watch — Kavner and DiTomasso have consistently given quality performances in the past.

**02**

BLACKALICIOUS
9 p.m. at Higher Ground Ballroom, 1214 Williston Road, South Burlington
Tickets $20 in advance/$23 on day of show.
Blackalicious, who released their fith record "The Craft" in September 2005, comes to Burlington with their popular hip-hop as part of their 2006 US tour. Lifesavas, Fat Lip and Pigeon John will also be performing with them.

**02**

TALLIS SCHOLARS
7 p.m. in Mead Chapel
Tickets $12/$15/$5
The Tallis Scholars, one of the most important choral groups performing Renaissance masterpieces today, returns to Middlebury College for the first time in 15 years, as part of their spring U.S. Tour.

**05**

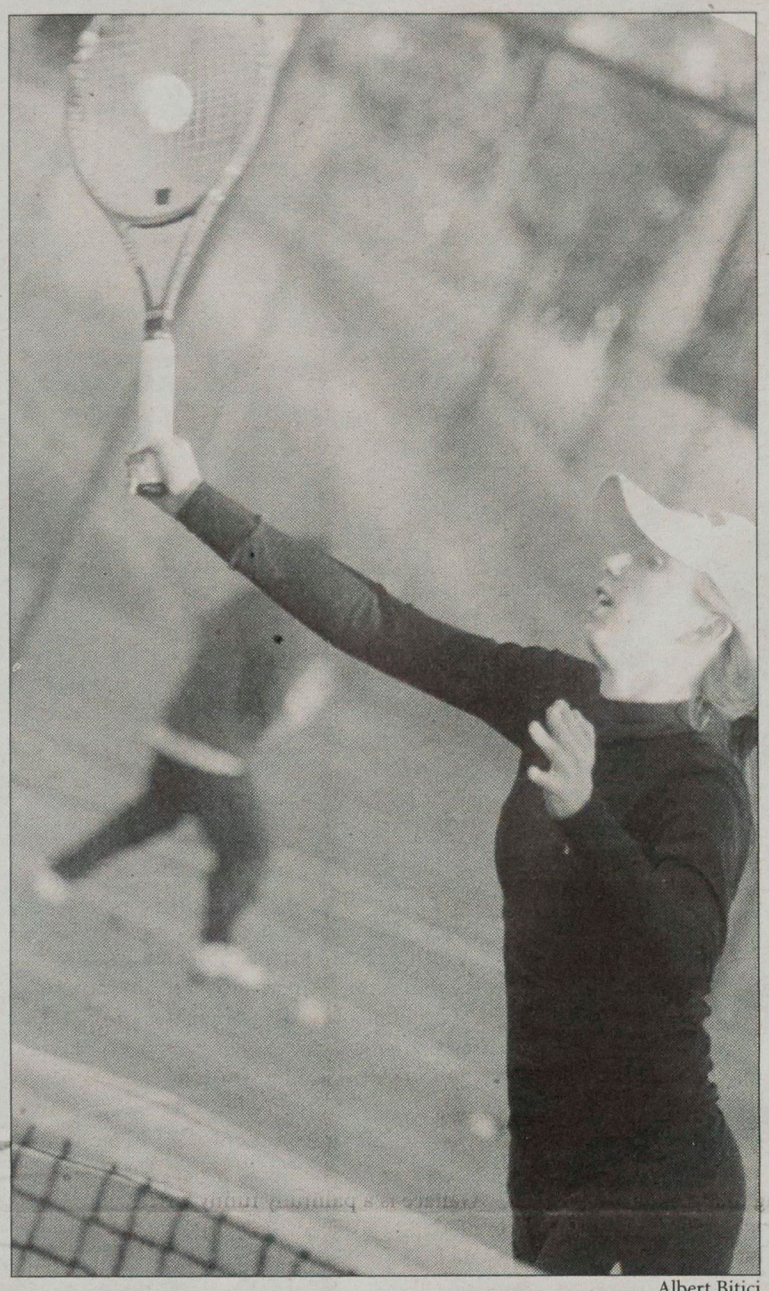
PETER HORVATH SCREENING AND DISCUSSION
4:30 p.m. in the Watson Lecture Hall, Middlebury College Library
Horvath, who has been experimenting and working with digital technologies in new media art since his late twenties, comes to Middlebury to discuss his work. His video art, exploring the self and human consciousness, is populated with eerie characters in blunted colors moving in slow motion.

**05**

8TH ANNUAL MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL LITERARY FESTIVAL
Ongoing until April 9, various locations in Montreal
Though you may not know it, Montreal is UNESCO's 2005-6 World Book Capital, and Blue Metropolis, an organization that brings together writers from around the world, has prepared a program including talks by international literary stars, workshops and book launches. For more information, visit www.blue-met-bleu.com/en.

# Midd swings through south

## Panthers split 2-2 during spring break meets



Albert Bitici

**Moving to 6-4 on the season, the Middlebury women's tennis team will look to improve its record with a visit to Springfield, before hosting Wesleyan.**

By Michael McCormick
*Staff Writer*

Middlebury women's tennis has three wins and two losses thus far in their spring season, as they played an indoor match at home before spring break and then headed south for warmer weather and outdoor tennis. The Panthers beat Brandeis 9-0 in their first match of the season at home on March 11.

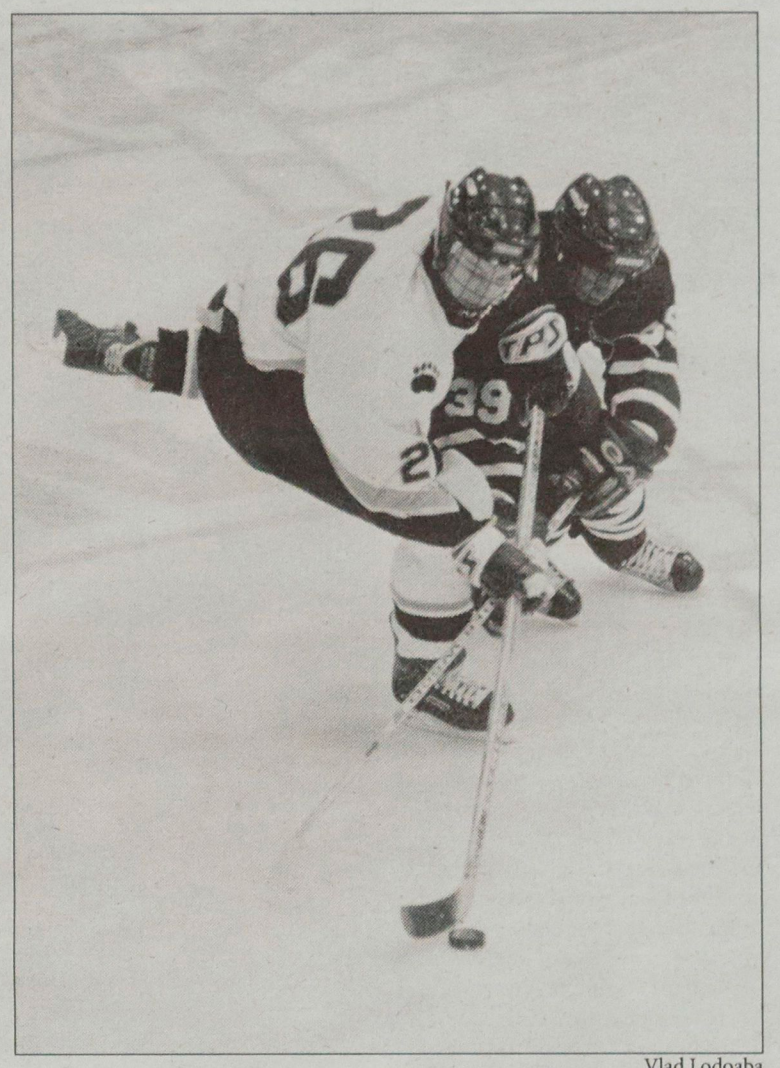
The Panthers practiced hard before break, and this resulted in "a glorious victory against Brandeis — an excellent confidence boost before spring break," according to Amanda Berck '08. This win came even though the Panthers had to play around an injury and a sick player. Berck, Emily Holick '07, Amy Berkman '08, Elizabeth Stone '09, Clare Burke '09 and Chandra Kurien '09 all had singles wins against Brandeis. The teams of Amy Roche '07 and Elizabeth Emery '09, Holick and Stone and Maren Messing '06 and Burke all had doubles wins. "It showed we all have the skills and talent to have each other's backs when not every teammate is well enough to complete," said Berck.

Over spring break, the Panthers traveled to Hilton Head, S.C., where they faced St. Lawrence on March 21 and the University of Chicago on March 22. The Panthers posted two more impressive wins here, beating St. Lawrence 8-1 and the University of Chicago 6-3. Roche, Berck, Holick and Stone all won singles matches against Chicago. Holick and Stone as well as Berkman and Burke won in doubles.

For the end of spring break, the Panthers moved north to Virginia, where they faced Washington and Lee and Emory. Both of these teams are among the best in the nation, and the Panthers could not pull off the dominant wins that they had in their previous matches. The team fell to Washington and Lee, ranked second in the nation, 7-2 on March 24. Roche and Holick both won matches for the Panthers in singles. The next day, the Panthers lost in a similar fashion to top-ranked Emory, 6-2.

The Panthers' next four matches are all against NESCAC opponents, including big matches against Amherst and Williams. In order to prepare for these, the Panthers are working on staying "relaxed, yet intense during matches," according to Berck.

The next competition will see Middlebury takeing to the courts this upcoming weekend against their counterparts from Connecticut College.



Vlad Lodoaba

**Scott Bartlett '08 picked up his second ring in as many years as Midd beat St. Norbert for its eighth victory in eight trips to the NCAA title game.**

# Men continue D-III dominance

Continued from page 24

were the seniors — Smith, goalie Yen-I Chen and team General Manager Ryan McQuillan. Despite their relatively small numbers, the fans and parents made the First Arena seem just a little bit more like the Chip Kenyon.

"There's nothing in the world like winning a national championship," said McQuillan, summing up the seniors' last hurrah, "let alone a third straight, especially in your last game ever. But, with all of the talent on this squad, this streak will not end until long after we're gone."

There is no doubt that this team's seniors were tremendously influential in bringing home the NCAA title, but with so few graduating players, the future is bright for the Panthers, who will no doubt be the favorites entering next season.

Coach Beaney, however, is not taking anything for granted. "Another year older does not necessarily mean another year better," says Beaney, whose wry smile belies his modesty, "you've still got to go through the fire."

# Editors' Picks

| *Questions of the week:* | *Zamir Ahmed* | *Tom McCann* | *Ryan W. Reese* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Who will emerge as the champions of the 2006 men's Final Four? | FLORIDA<br>Joakim Noah and the Gators are playing like the team that started the year 17-0. | LSU<br>Since four people out of three million picked this Final Four, it could be anyone. I pick the Tigers. | LSU<br>As much as I love the Green & Gold, Big Baby and crew will roll on through Indianapolis. |
| Will Lauren Battaglia '06 keep her batting average above .400 over the weekend? | YES<br>Battaglia has 14 hits in 32 at-bats. Hamilton is 1-9 on the season. You do the math. | YES<br>Hamilton won't slow her down and I wouldn't be surprised if she pushes it over .450 — she's just that good. | YES<br>Cat-like reflexes, cannon-like arms and eagle-like eyes will keep her over .400. Also, Hamilton just isn't good. |
| Will Ari Beilin '06 remain undefeated in singles play against Dartmouth and Tufts? | YES<br>The only way he might lose is if he plays left-handed. And blindfolded. And being attacked by bears. | NO<br>Dartmouth and Tufts are not going to be easy to dismiss. Beilin has sparkled so far, but might drop one. | YES<br>He played well against both teams last year and he's on a roll this spring. |
| **All-Time Record:** | **13 - 17 (.434)** | **22 - 8 (.734)** | **17 - 13 (.567)** |

# BALL 'EM 101

By Justin Golenbock

Eric Rosemund '06 catches the inbound, sizes up the hoop, drives left…SWAT. Though a step behind, 5'10" Josh Feldman '06 comes from seemingly nowhere to reject Rosemund's shot with such force that the ball hits off the gym wall six feet beyond the basket.

Embarrassing? Most definitely. Doubly so now that it's been immortalized in print? Well I wouldn't give myself too much credit. But what the anecdote begins to illustrate is the long history of humiliation that is the blocked shot. And it's about time someone asked the question: Is there a more embarrassing play in sports than having a basketball stuffed back in your face? Of all the instances of psychological trauma that sports inflict at even the least competitive of levels, is there a better example?

Now, practically speaking, the blocked shot is the least valuable of the counting stats — it's not even a turnover. Bill Russell, the first great NBA shot blocker, still talks about how frustrated he got when his team (he was also the coach) would stand around watching him block seven or eight shots in a possession, only to have the other team eventually score. A team's best shot-blocker is generally the team's best rebounder, and can usually do only one of those things at a time.

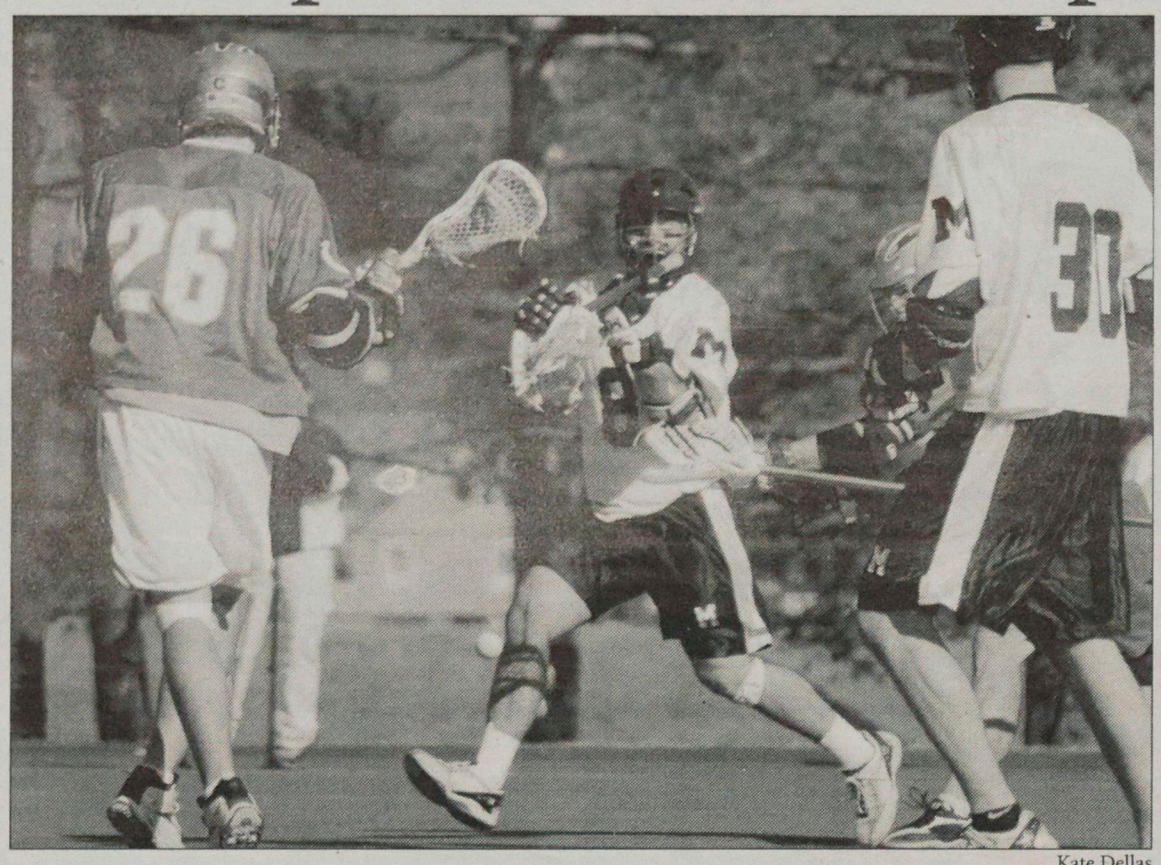
But the fact remains, a dropped infield popup is just a one-base error, but that doesn't alleviate the jog of shame out to right field the inning after. No one's fooled when a pro cornerback overzealously celebrates a deflected pass of what should've been a gimme interception. But there's no parallel in any other sport to the humiliation of a good block, even though the shooting team usually just gets the ball right back.

The intimidation factor of the shot-blocker counts for more than just tangible value. Announcers like to preach the "shot-changing" component of great shot-blockers like the Pistons' Ben Wallace or LSU's Tyrus Thomas by examining their stat-lines with ejaculations like: "three blocks? I would've thought he'd had 17 the way he changed that game!" But what they miss is the psychological effect. Tony Parker didn't go near the paint for Games 3-6 in last year's NBA finals after getting swatted in Game 2. And even though he's French, we all felt for him.

But what the block mostly does is provide entertainment for the more malicious element of sports viewers that fans like myself so gleefully represent. Sure, a dunk is only two points, but it's damn satisfying to watch when it's done in the face of a player we don't like. That's doubly true for the blocked shot. Evidence LSU's defeat of Duke last week, when the freshman Thomas added a fantastic exclamation point to the upset by sending Greg Paulus's last-ditch lay-up attempt into the stands. For Duke haters around the country, well, it was a nice moment.

Okay, I finally wrote a March Madness column. Almost. Now get ready for baseball.

# Lax improves to 3-1 over spring break



Kate Dellas

**Senior Jonathan Sisto scored twice in an 8-6 victory over NESCAC rivals Connecticut College during the break.**

By Geoff Homer
*Staff Writer*

While all of us enjoyed the sun and sand, the men's lacrosse team was hard at work competing in three games. The Panthers won the first game at home before going south for their annual spring break trip, during which they compiled a .500 record on the road.

On Saturday, March 18, Middlebury played host to 11th ranked Stevens Institute on Kohn Field. In a hard-fought battle, the Panthers prevailed 13-12. The first half was evenly scored, with the Panthers ending it with a 5-4 advantage. Both squads came out firing to begin the third quarter, with each team trading goals before the Panthers went up by a score of 12-8. Not conceding defeat, the Stevens Ducks scored the next three to bring the game down to the wire with Middlebury holding a 12-11 advantage. Aaron Herter '06, who earlier scored two goals, netted the game-winner with seven minutes to play. Stevens seemed poised to tie the game but time ran out. Henry Sheehan '06 led all scorers with four points, while Jim Cabrera '08 and Jon Sisto '06 each contributed two goals.

The following Wednesday, the Panthers played their first road game of the season at Gettysburg, in what now is an annual match-up between two of the top three teams in the nation.

Despite a strong effort by the defense led by Gabe Wood '06, the Panthers were on the wrong side of the contest, losing 7-4. According to Co-Captain J.P. Coviello '06, "We played well, but they managed to keep the ball out of our offense's hands for the majority of the game. When we had the ball, our possessions were often short-lived, which didn't help the situation."

Gettysburg opened the game scoring the first few goals before the Panthers rallied with goals by Captain Travis Meyer '06, Jeff Pello '06 and Frank Granara '08, who received a rare feed from Wood. The Panthers entered the second half down 4-3 before Gettysburg struck again to go up two goals.

Middlebury responded immediately as Cabrera rifled a shot to the back of the net, but that would be the end of the day for the Panthers as the Bullets played a possession game, denying Middlebury more scoring opportunities.

Hoping to end the trip on a positive note and pick up their first road victory, the team regrouped and traveled to Connecticut to take on the Camels of Connecticut College.

As is the norm for any Middlebury opponent, the Camels showed up with their A game, and left nothing on the field in their battle with Middlebury. "Once again, this team's goal from the first whistle was to possess the ball and keep it out of the hands of our offense," said Coviello. "They realized their goal for the most part, giving us limited possession time throughout the game. When our offense had the ball, we seemed fairly impatient initially, with hopes to put the ball in the net immediately rather than being patient and waiting for beneficial match-ups to develop."

Led by Meyer, who had a strong first half and ended the day with two goals and two assists, the Panthers were able to leave New London with an 8-6 victory. As was customary throughout the trip, the defense played great as Wood, Scott Atkinson '06 and Ben Raymond '07 all made key stops and takeaways. Alex Palmisano '07 was stellar in goal with 13 saves while Cabrera continued his scoring streak, tallying two goals. Nick Bastis '07 and Sisto each contributed two goals as well.

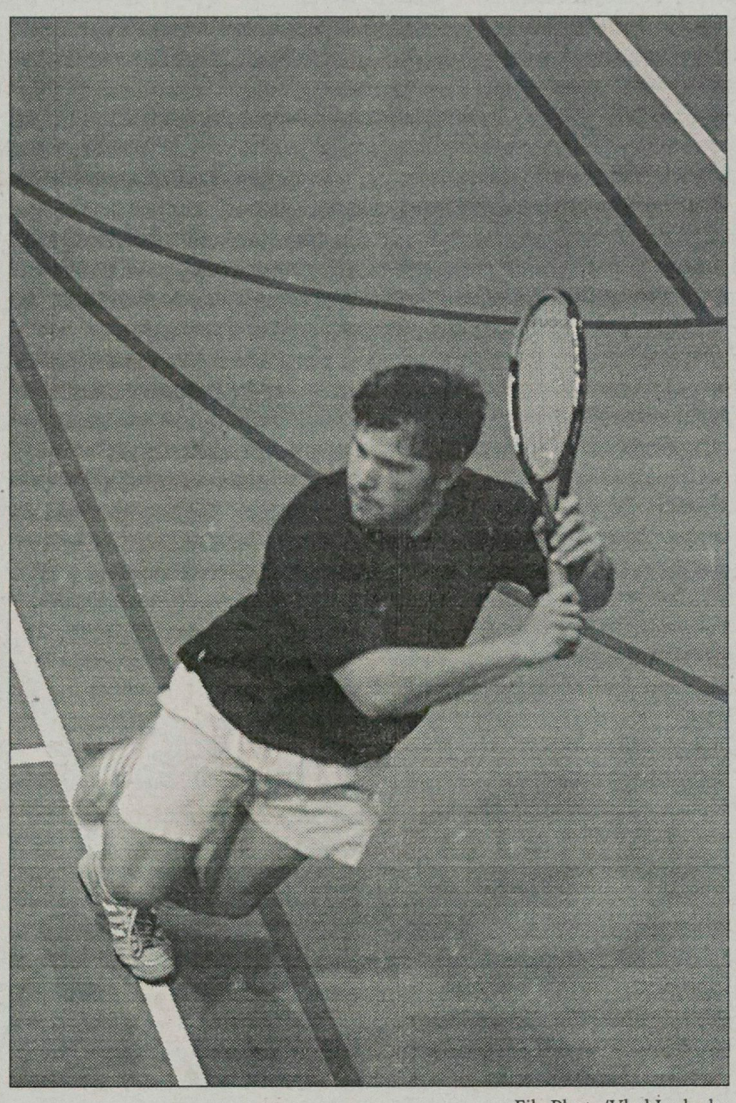
The Panthers currently sit in second place in the NESCAC standings, half a game behind Bates College. The team must continue their high level of play to ensure success as they enter the month of April, playing arguably the toughest schedule in all of Division III. The Panthers look to continue their success as they host Wesleyan, a contest that features a rematch of last year's NESCAC championship.

# BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Staff Writer

| | |
|---|---|
| **0** | Singles losses this spring on the tennis court for both Ari Beilin '06 and Conrad Olson '09 |
| **2** | Number of times the women's lacrosse team has scored 21 goals — first against St. Lawrence and then versus Conn. College |
| **6** | Consecutive lacrosse games (including last year's NCAA semifinal and final) in which Jim Cabrera '08 has beaten the opposing goalie |
| **11** | Walks drawn by the appropriately-named Noah Walker '07 in 11 games, leading the team |
| **.714** | Sophomore Nick Lefeber's batting average with two outs in the inning |
| **.812** | Slugging percentage for Lefeber in 10 games; Manny's last season was .594 |

## INVINCIBLE!



File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

**Continuing his unbeaten start to the season,** senior Ari Beilin led the Panthers to wins over three Top-10 teams, moving to 10-1 on the year.

# INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

## Ryan Armstrong '06 swings for the fences

***The Campus:* When did you first play baseball?**

**Ryan Armstrong:** I started playing probably when I was about five or six, tee-ball like everyone else, then I just played through my town and then through high school and now here.

***TC:* So, do you play any other sports?**

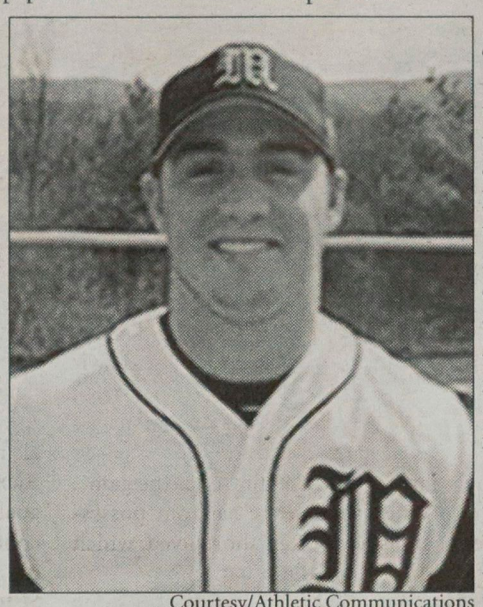
**RA:** I play football here and I've been doing that just as long as I've been playing baseball.

***TC:* Which one do you like better?**

**RA:** I'm going to have to say baseball, simply because we go to Arizona or Florida, so it has a little bit of an advantage, I suppose, over football and Vermont.

***TC:* Is it hard to balance two sports?**

**RA:** It's tough, it's definitely demanding. You have to try to balance your academics and your sports and find time to read, study and write papers and all that good stuff. But I think I would be better off playing two sports with my academics than not doing any sports and doing academics because it keeps me focused on school and all that good stuff too.



Courtesy/Athletic Communications

***TC:* How does it feel to be a Middlebury record holder?**

**RA:** [Laughs] Um, flattering, I guess. This college has a very long history and it's an honor to be at the top of the charts in some categories, but I don't know how long it's going to stay. We've got some good underclassmen who are ready to break a lot more records. It's an honor.

***TC:* Any superstitions?**

**RA:** I would like to say I'm not superstitious, but I guess I am. Uh, I usually wear like, sort of a, like a little piece of string on my left wrist. But, uh, after last season when I was in a slump, I took it off and then I got out of the slump so I haven't worn it since playing baseball, I don't wear it anymore. So I guess a little superstitious. [Laughs] I have some habits, some routines before I get up to bat but it's nothing as OCD as, uh, my batting gloves or anything like Nomar.

***TC:* If you could have one song played when you are stepping up to bat, what would it be?**

**RA:** Blue Oyster Cult — "Godzilla." I don't know if you've heard it but it's a pretty bad-ass song. I like it, it's a good intro.

***TC:* What are your responsibilities as a captain?**

**RA:** Just making sure we stay focused. I think a lot of the time, in any spring sport, it can be difficult to keep your focus because seniors have graduation, the weather gets nice, people are interested in going outside and having fun and all that stuff. But it's important for us to keep our focus and make sure we can advance to the playoffs. But definitely keep everyone focused and having fun, making sure everyone has fun because that's what playing Division III baseball is for — because we love it and, you know, we enjoy playing it. Those are the two most important things, I'd say.

***TC:* What is your best moment as a player?**

**RA:** I'm going to say a couple days ago, beating Williams in extra innings. It was a nine inning game and we were down by five throughout most of the game. We came back, tied it up 5-5, and then they got another five runs so we're down 10-5 going into the eighth inning. We get five runs in the eighth inning, tie it up so it's 10-10 going into the final inning. They get two runs, which killed me personally but thankfully the team was there to pick me up and we got two runs in the ninth to tie it back up so it goes into extra innings. Gary Roosa, a senior pitcher, did an unbelievable job and pitched a scoreless inning against Williams for the tenth. They walk the bases loaded. John Lanahan '08 hits a fly ball to right field. Kid catches it and Joe Ramoin '06 tags from third. He gets thrown out so it's a double play, two outs, tenth inning, runners on first and third. Nick Lefeber, a sophomore, who was huge for us all throughout the Florida trip — he hit over .500, the kid was just a stud — he hits a game-winning hit up the middle. So we came back from five runs on two separate occasions throughout the game and beat Williams. I think it was morale boosting and it just changed our mentality. It really showed that we have a lot of character on the team and I was really proud to be a part of it.

***TC:* Who's the biggest clown on the team?**

**RA:** [Laughs] I would give that honor to either myself just to avoid embarrassing anyone else. I'm a big goofball. I like to keep it loose in there. But all those guys keep the fun around in their own ways. But I'm definitely the loudest and most obnoxious in the locker room and practice and stuff like that. I guess maybe myself.

***TC:* Have you given any interesting nicknames?**

**RA:** Giving other people nicknames, I like doing that if something happens where a particular event or something is linked to someone else, I like to maybe bring it up as a joke and see if it spreads. It's happened a couple of times on the baseball team. Nick Lefeber, we call him DJ Kid Nicky, for whatever reason. Alex Casnocha '06, we call him Casanova, Nacho. Stuff like that sticks.

***TC:* What do you think of the designated hitter?**

**RA:** I know I'm probably going to get yelled at by some professors who follow baseball because I know a lot of guys are against the designated hitter. I personally like it. I'm a big Red Sox fan [Laughs] and if David Ortiz wasn't the designated hitter for the Red Sox, we wouldn't be half as good as we are. But in terms of NESCAC play too, I think it's great because you get another hitter in the game and especially….We have a great lineup so it's good to get as many guys as you can in the game. So I'm for it, though I can see why people are against it. It doesn't bug me.

***TC:* What are your plans after graduation?**

**RA:** Oh man, you sound like my mom. [Laughs] I get this question asked all the time by relatives and stuff like that and I still have no idea. I'm thinking about grad school somewhere, maybe going to a bigger school out west and studying education. If not, I'd like to work somewhere in the New England area, maybe stay close to home for a couple of years then eventually move out to somewhere in California just to get away from the cold weather for a little bit.

***TC:* Finally, who's going to win the World Series?**

**RA:** I gotta say Red Sox. I mean, if I don't say Red Sox, I'm not a fan. But that's me being a typical Red Sox fan. I have the — I did like a whole bracket by myself. [Laughs] I was bored one day in class. I think I have the Angels winning the World Series in six games against the Cardinals.

— Zamir Ahmed, sports editor

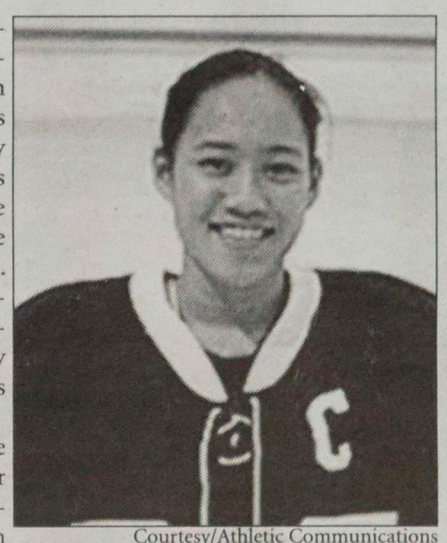
# PANTHER SCOREBOARD

| *Date* | *Sport* | *Vs.* | *Result* | *Comments* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mar. 24 | Softball | Plymouth St. | 2-0 | Katie Hurd '06 goes 3-3 to lead Panther attack |
| Mar. 25 | W Lacrosse | Conn. Coll. | 21-9 | Alison Perencevich '06 scores five goals in Middlebury win |
| Mar. 25 | M Tennis | UC Santa Cruz | 4-3 | Big win for Panthers as they knock off #1 team in the country |
| Mar. 25 | Baseball | Williams | 13-12 | Nick Lefeber '08 knocks in Noah Walker '07 in the bottom of the 10th |
| Mar. 26 | W Golf | Jeckyll Island Invite | 7th | Heather Gallagher '07 leads team by finishing tied for 19th |
| Mar. 26 | M Golf | Jeckyll Island Invite | 18th | Harrison Bane '08 leads team while finishing in 53rd |

# SPORTSBRIEFS

BY ZAMIR AHMED, SPORTS EDITOR

## Quizon '06 top player in D-III



Courtesy/Athletic Communications

In a fitting end to her collegiate hockey career, Middlebury's women's hockey team captain Emily Quizon '06 was named the American Hockey Coaches Association Women's College Player of the Year. She is the fourth Panther to win the award in the past seven years. Kate Kogut '06, Shannon Tarrant '07 and Annemarie Cellino '09 were also honored by the nation's coaches with spots on the All-American Team.

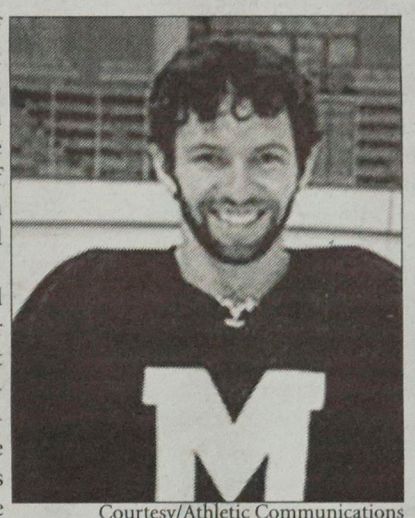
Quizon was named the top player in the nation after recording 21 goals and 19 assists during the season, which also earned her a spot on the All-American First Team. She was a guiding force for the Panthers in big games, scoring a goal in the semifinals and finals of both the NESCAC and NCAA tournaments. Quizon ends her career third on Middlebury's all-time list with 107 assists and fifth in school history with 169 points.

Kogut was named to the All-American Second Team after finishing the season with a .917 save percentage and a 1.68 goals against average, which ranked her seventh in the nation. She closes the books on her collegiate career first in school history with a .926 save percentage and fourth with a 1.39 GAA.

Tarrant earned her third All-American honor with her second consecutive Second Team honor. She was one of the leaders for Middlebury's stellar defense, which gave up a stingy 1.37 goals per game during the season, ranking it third in the nation. Tarrant also contributed on the offensive end with five goals and 18 assists.

Cellino earned Second Team All-American status with a team-leading 26 goals and 21 assists. The NESCAC Rookie of the Year was incredible on special teams, notching eight power-play goals and seven short-handed goals.

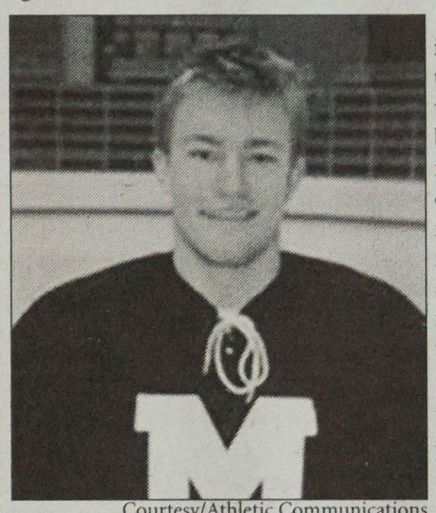
## AHCA honors men's hockey



Courtesy/Athletic Communications

Middlebury College's Jeff Smith '05.5 and Mickey Gilchrist '08 were named to the All-American First Team by the American Hockey Coaches Association. The pair were instrumental parts of the men's hockey team, which won its third straight NCAA title and eighth in 12 years.

Smith tallied five goals and eight assists during the season for the Panthers. The captain's biggest contribution was to the Middlebury defense, which gave up a nation-low 1.54 goals per game. The defense held its opponent scoreless in the NCAA championship game for the fourth straight year and now has five shutouts in eight title games. The Panthers have not given up a goal in the finals of the NCAA tournament for 265:57.



Courtesy/Athletic Communications

Gilchrist had a team-leading 24 goals and 26 assists on the season to lead the nation with 50 points. He played his best hockey when it mattered most for the Panthers, as evidenced by his five game-winning goals — second in the nation — and the goal and two assists he notched in the semifinals and finals of the NCAA tournament.

As Smith leaves with three championship rings and All-America honors, Gilchrist will look to continue Middlebury's rich hockey tradition.

## Unsung Hero of the Week

**JENNIFER WILLIAMS '07 (Softball)**
**The junior has a 1.21 ERA after pitching five complete games in Florida.**

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM | RYAN ARMSTRONG '06 TALKS BASEBALL WITH *THE CAMPUS* | 23

MEN'S LACROSSE | LAX IMPROVES RECORD BUT FALLS TO RIVAL GETTYSBURG | 22

GAMES TO WATCH

TRACK & FIELD
PANTHER INVITE
APRIL 1 | 12:00 P.M.
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL
VS. HAMILTON
APRIL 1 | 1:00 & 4:00 P.M.

campus sports

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2006

# BLUE REIGN

Courtesy/Will Costello

After surviving a nailbiter against Elmira in the semifinal, the men cruised to the NCAA title.

Courtesy/Caroline Monninger

The Panthers knocked off rival and top-seeded Plattsburgh to claim a third straight crown.

## Men's and women's teams raise two more NCAA title banners in Kenyon Arena

By Steve Beslow
*Staff Writer*

Middlebury's dominance over Division III men's hockey has reached dynastic proportions…again. After a 22-2-2 regular season, a no-sweat NESCAC title and a solid first-round game, Bill Beaney's squad headed down to Elmira, N.Y. and played their way to a third straight NCAA National Title, Middlebury's eighth in the last 12 years.

This year's NCAA tournament included a new twist. Under previous rules, the Panthers, who finished this season ranked number one in the nation, would have maintained home-ice advantage throughout the playoffs (as they did during last year's championship run). Instead, the Panthers were forced to play the semifinal and final matchups at a "neutral" site. This year, that site was the First Arena in Elmira, home of the UHL Elmira Jackals. But the site turned out not to be quite so neutral as advertised, as the Panthers found themselves in a semi-final bracket with the hometown Elmira College Soaring Eagles. Beaney, however, was not at all upset at having to go up against a hometown team. "Having Elmira in the tournament will bring a lot of fans and a ton of excitement to the game," said Beaney before the weekend, "And that's what this sport is all about."

"It really gives our guys something to play for," agreed Assistant Coach Chris LaPerle. "There's no way we'll be getting too complacent in front of that crowd."

As it turned out, the Soaring Eagles gave their fans something to cheer about. Elmira came out firing against first-year goalie Doug Raeder. Raeder started in place of injured Ross Cherry '08, who hurt his knee after a record-setting run in the NESCAC tournament. But the Panthers were not overly distraught at the turn of events as Raeder's numbers this season were exceptional, ranking among the top five netminders in goals against average.

Huge underdogs coming in, Elmira took an early lead, beating Raeder on the power-play just 2:40 into the second period. This would be the only goal that Raeder allowed the entire weekend, and the Panthers made sure that the goalie's stellar performances did not go to waste. Middlebury tied the game 12 minutes later when John Sales '07 grabbed his own rebound and forced the puck home. Sales's goal quieted down the Elmira crowd and seemed to swing the momentum back in Middlebury's favor.

But the Soaring Eagles did not back down and the Panthers had serious difficulty getting their offense together, especially on the power-plays, which did not feature the crisp passing that has become Middlebury's trademark. That would all change when defenseman Tom Maldonado '08 found daylight, blasting home a power-play goal from the point with exactly two minutes left in the game. The second goal was a gigantic relief for the Panthers and plenty of wiggle-room for Raeder, who completely shut down the Eagles in the third period and stopped 26 shots in all.

Putting the semifinals behind them, the Panthers, who have never lost a championship game since the inception of the NCAA tournament, were more than prepared to put the finishing touches on an incredible season. To capture that final trophy, Middlebury had to go through old rivals St. Norbert College (SNC) of De Pere, Wis., whom the Panthers defeated two years ago to begin their recent string of championships.

Unlike the day before, Middlebury had no trouble getting on the board. Just 1:36 into the game, the Panthers capitalized on an early SNC penalty when Rob McIntyre '08 grabbed a Mickey Gilchrist '08 rebound in the post and stuffed it into the back of the net.

The Golden Knights had plenty of chances to answer back, but Middlebury's defense was clutch all day and impenetrable when short-handed. Raeder made several spectacular pad saves, but the best save of the night went to captain Smith '06, who cleared the puck from the crease behind Raeder after one of the goalie's particularly impressive stops.

Middlebury gained a bit of breathing room at 7:15 in the second when Sales came through again for the Panthers, taking a crisp pass from Darwin Hunt '07 and scoring on a laser off the inside of the far post and the back of SNC goaltender Kyle Jones. Jones played well on the whole, but was a victim of Middlebury's speed and his own team's seven penalties. With two goals in hand, the Panther's tightened up their defense, holding St. Norbert to only eight shots on goal in the third period. Gilchrist iced the championship with an open-netter with just 45 seconds left in the game, and the celebration was on. It was the team-leading 24th goal of the season for assistant captain Gilchrist who, along with Jeff Smith, was named first-team All-American.

Both teams were honored after the game, and Middlebury's loyal fans showered the team with cheers. Particularly well received

See Men, page 21

By Jake Cohen
*Staff Writer*

The Middlebury women's hockey program won its third consecutive NCAA National Championship last week with a 3-1 win over number one-seeded Plattsburgh in Stafford Ice Arena. Led by Coach Bill Mandigo, the second-ranked women fought their way through the playoffs beating Manhattanville and Gustavus Adolphus in the quarterfinals and semifinals. This historic title marks the fifth women's hockey championship and 25th title for Middlebury College in the past 12 years. The Panthers ended their season with a 27-2 record, tying the '99-'00 women's team for most wins in a season.

The Panthers advanced to the title game by sneaking out a 2-1 nail-biter against Gustavus Adolphus on March 17. The Gusties looked strong as the game opened, outshooting the Panthers 12-4 in the first period. But Middlebury goalie Kate Kogut '06 was up to the challenge, keeping the score 0-0 after the game's first 20 minutes. The Panthers broke onto the scoreboard just 6:45 into the second period as senior Emily Quizon knocked a goal home on a breakaway. Junior Shannon Sylvester tallied the eventual game-winner later in the period on another breakaway and the Panthers skated into the second intermission with a 2-0 lead. The Gusties got on the board with 7:18 left in the game but the Panthers survived a late charge for their ninth victory in nine meetings between the two teams.

In the NCAA final on March 18, the Plattsburgh Cardinals got started early, firing seven unanswered shots on goal to start the game but Kogut was once again posed to win. As Shannon Tarrant, junior defenseman, put it, "Kogut is really the backbone of our team." Middlebury quickly responded to the Cardinal attack on its first two shots of the game. Shannon Sylvester '07 stuffed a rebound into the back of the net on a power-play for the first of the team's three goals. As the first period was winding down, the Panther offense heated up when first-year Annmarie Cellino scored her nation-best seventh shorthanded goal with 13 seconds left of play. Though Plattsburgh won the shooting battle 11-8, Kogut's skill in the net was too much for the trigger-happy Cardinals.

The second period saw less action until the Panthers once again gained momentum at the end of the period. An errant play by Plattsburgh sophomore Sharis Smith left Quizon with a penalty shot. With only 55 seconds left to play in the second period, the National Player of the Year scored with authority giving Middlebury a 3-0 lead. Plattsburgh sophomore Elise Campbell scored the only goal of the third period and the first of her season at 9:21 with a power play goal.

Plattsburgh rookie Danielle Blanchard tried to cut Middlebury's lead to 3-2 late in the third, but all-American Kogut came up big once again. The Cardinals had a few chances late in the period but could not manage to find the back of the net. The first-seeded team converted only one of five power play opportunities in the period, and only one of 10 for the game.

Kogut was stellar in net for Middlebury, stopping 24 of 25 shots to earn the win. Breanne Doyle, senior goalie for Plattsburgh, made 17 shots between the pipes. Kogut, Cellino, Tarrant and Quizon were all named to the all-tournament team for Middlebury, while senior Chantalle Rye and junior Jessica Moreau earned honors for Plattsburgh. All four Panthers were also named to the All-American team by the American Hockey Coaches Association.

The season has been an interesting journey for the women's hockey team. The team started 18-0 but hit a bump in the road with two consecutive losses, the second of which was in Plattsburgh. "We had a couple of rough games in the middle of the season," says Kogut. But the losses served as motivation for the team. "I think [losing] helped us play even harder when we were playing [Plattsburgh] again in their rink for the NCAA championship." Middlebury's win against the Cardinals ended Plattsburgh's 29-game home unbeaten streak.

But the most remarkable story behind the women's squad is how it has developed into more of a family than a team. "I absolutely loved the playoffs this year, but what made it special was the girls who were in the locker room. They are really my 21 best friends!" said Tarrant. Moreover, the seniors on the team led with inspiring passion. Quizon, one of the team's two captains, played her final two games with a torn ACL and still scored two goals. Liz Yale-Loehr '06 was consistently a positive, encouraging figurehead for new and experienced players alike. Kogut stopped 47 of 49 shots in the semifinals and finals and sported a .926 career save percentage, the second best in school history. "With those captains, our team was held to the highest standards, we didn't want to let any of them down and we wanted to play for all of them," said Tarrant. The team did, in fact, play to the highest standard. "We waited all season to play our best game, and we pulled it off just in time." The women's hockey team has once again continued a tradition of athletic excellence at Middlebury that will stand unrivaled for years to come.